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Japan

Writer Alleges Presence of U.S. Nuclear Units

OW0305115990 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 24 Apr 90 Morning Edition p 23

[Text] Antinuclear organizations in the United States and other nations have pointed out that units in charge of handling nuclear accidents are deployed with U.S. forces stationed in Japan. Regarding this "suspicion about the existence of nuclear weapons," Mr. S. Gregory [name as published], a British expert on nuclear problems, has disclosed concrete details about the deployment in his book published in March.

Mr. Gregory has obtained documents of the Defense Nuclear Agency (DNA) of the U.S. Department of Defense on the basis of the "Freedom of Information Act." Mr. Gregory discloses that a total of nine units are deployed at seven locations, including Misawa Base in Aomori, Yokota Base in Tokyo, Yokosuka Base in Kanagawa, Iwakuni Base in Yamaguchi, Sasebo Base in Nagasaki, Kadena Base, and Camp Hansen, and that details of their organizations and functions are recorded in these documents.

According to the regulations, all units "will handle accidents in their respective areas." Mr. Gregory states: "The presence of such units does not necessarily indicate that nuclear weapons have been introduced. However, there is no denying that these units may possibly have certain functions connected with nuclear weapons."

Mr. Gregory's book is entitled: "Hidden Price for Deterrence—Accidents with Nuclear Weapons." Among the DNA documents he has obtained are: "A Summary of the Capability to Handle Nuclear Accidents" (printed in 1987), which lists "teams for handling accidents" deployed in the United States or in allied nations; and the "Procedures for Handling Nuclear Weapon Accidents" (printed in 1984) which is a manual for handling accidents.

The organizations and functions of all these units are somewhat different. (Two units are deployed at the Kadena and Iwakuni bases, while only one unit is deployed at all other bases.) These units have equipment and specialists in charge of measuring radioactive pollution, disposing of explosives, giving medical treatment, transporting by helicopter, standing guard, and handling public relations and legal affairs. They are "always on stand-by."

In case of nuclear accident, the "alpha-ray," "beta-ray," and "gamma-ray" will be generated. Except for the unit deployed at Camp Hansen, which is not capable of measuring the "gamma-ray," all other units deployed at seven bases are capable of measuring all the three rays.

MITI's Muto Endorses World Trade Body Plan

OW0305101990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0818 GMT 3 May 90

[By Shiro Yoneyama]

[Text] Napa, California, May 3 KYODO—Japan on Wednesday endorsed Canada's call for the start of talks on a new world trade body following the scheduled completion of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations in December.

International Trade and Industry Minister [MITI] Kabun Muto expressed Japan's support for the Canadian proposal in a meeting with Canadian International Trade Minister John Crosbie, a senior Japanese official said. The two ministers met shortly before the start of a three-day meeting here on the Uruguay Round of trade liberalization negotiations.

"Minister Muto responded positively to the Canadian proposal," the Japanese official said. He said, however, Japan anticipates "good content" in a new set of trade rules under the Uruguay Round, sponsored by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills told reporters she and her counterparts from Japan, Canada, and the 12-nation European Community hope to "talk about common ground and areas of differences." Representing the EC is EC Commission Vice President Frans Andriessen. The four leaders and their deputies discussed safeguards or emergency import curbs, subsidies, dispute settlement mechanisms, and other subjects Wednesday evening in preparation for full-scale talks on the Uruguay Round on Thursday and Friday.

On Thursday, officials said, the world's four major trading partners will tackle such thorny issues as market access, new trade rules, and trade in services.

Muto and Andriessen will meet before the plenary session.

In the meeting with Muto, Crosbie, a strong advocate of a World Trade Organization (WTO) aimed at supplementing GATT, urged Japan to agree with Canada in pursuing the start of negotiations on the WTO proposal at the time of a GATT ministerial meeting in Brussels in December. Crosbie said Canada envisions an agreement on a WTO after "three to four months" of negotiations in time for the U.S. Congress to approve results of the Uruguay Round under the fast track process, Japanese officials said.

The Canadian minister also called for eliminating tariffs on telecommunications gear, data processing equipment, and forest and fishery products by both Canada and Japan to encourage other countries to take similar measures. He also called on Japan to drop 8 percent tariffs on spruce, pine, and fur, according to a Japanese official.

In response to a question from Crosbie about the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) with the U.S., Muto

assured the Canadian minister that the promised changes in Japan will benefit Canada and other third parties as well.

The meeting at Silverado Country Club in wine-growing Napa Valley follows an informal ministerial meeting on the Uruguay Round in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, on April 19-20.

Hills acknowledged in a meeting with a small group of reporters that the U.S. and the EC are still wide apart over agricultural reform. She also said she expects Japan to be forthcoming in all 15 negotiating areas under the Uruguay Round, including agriculture.

The four ministers will end their meeting here Friday after discussing dispute settlement procedures, the WTO proposal, and relations with international financial institutions Friday morning.

Kuriyama Urges New 'Big Power' Diplomacy

OW0305002590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1502 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—Vice Foreign Minister Takakazu Kuriyama has called for a new foreign policy that reflects Japan's status in the international community.

In an article in the latest edition of GAIKO FORUM entitled "The Turbulent 1990s and New Developments in Japan's Foreign Policy," Kuriyama pointed the need for Japan to break with the diplomatic style of a small country and embark on diplomacy more characteristic of a major country.

Kuriyama said Japan should be a major country without boasting of being a big power and contribute to the formation of a new international order utilizing its economic power. A new international order is yet to be established following the end of the Cold War and uncertainty and instability exist at a time of a transition, he said.

Quoting British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's remarks that the world is running on thin ice, Kuriyama warned of the dangers of being influenced by a mood of relaxation in tensions. He said the world should come to terms with the establishment of a new global order in the aftermath of the Cold War and establish a new international trade system able to withstand protectionism and nationalism.

Kuriyama said cooperation among Japan, the United States and Europe is the key to world peace and prosperity. He said anxieties and fears held by other nations toward Japan could be eliminated if Japan itself realized it is one of the factors causing the present changes.

Kuriyama also proposed that Japan should change its passive foreign policy to a more active one.

MSDF Increases Surveillance of Key Straits

OW0105112490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0901 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 1 KYODO—Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force [MSDF] has stepped up its surveillance capability in three key straits to monitor the movements of warships of the Soviet Pacific Fleet, Defense Agency sources said Tuesday. The new system can process real-time data on Soviet surface ships and submarines which transit the three straits. The MSDF aims at upgrading the capability of its escort ships and antisubmarine aircraft to block Soviet warships passing the straits, the sources said.

The MSDF has been upgrading its radar and electronic intelligence gathering equipment in monitoring posts near the Soya, Tsugaru, and Tsushima straits since 1989, the sources said. Seabed sonars to detect submarines have been upgraded to an advanced system known as "LQO4," they said.

The MSDF has begun constructing underground computerized intelligence processing systems in district headquaters in Sasebo, Nagasaki Prefecture, and Ominato, Aomori Prefecture. The system will be operational in Fiscal 1991, they said. The systems will be linked to the Self-Defense Fleet Headquaters in Yokosuka, south of Tokyo.

Military analysts said the MSDF upgrading of its surveillance network reflects the U.S. Navy strategy of blocking the Soviet Pacific Fleet's entry to the Pacific Ocean via the three straits from the Sea of Japan in the event of war.

According to the Defense Agency, the number of times Soviet warships have used the three straits between the Sea of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk and the Pacific Ocean has averaged 600 a year in the past five years.

Health Minister Leaves for OECD Meeting

OW2904093990 Tokyo KYODO in English 0650 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] Tokyo, April 29 KYODO—Japanese Health and Welfare Minister Yuji Tsushima left Tokyo International Airport at Narita for Paris Sunday to meet officials of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

From Paris Tshushima will visit Warsaw for three days beginning Thursday to exchange opinions with Polish officials on health and medical cooperation.

He will return to Japan next Sunday.

JSP Chairwoman Doi Leaves on European Visit

OW0205070490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0559 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party (JSP) Chairwoman Takako Doi on Wednesday left for Frankfurt on a two-week visit to East and West Germany and France.

The No. 1 opposition party chief is scheduled to have talks with former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt of the Social Democratic Party (SPD) and SPD Chairman Hans-Jochen Vogel in West Germany on the first leg of her European tour, party officials said. Doi will give a lecture on the political situation in Japan at a symposium in Paris and will also have a meeting with President Francois Mitterrand, the officials said.

Opposition Parties Vow To Defend Constitution

OW0205130290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1231 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—All opposition parties on Wednesday vowed to defend the war-renouncing Constitution calling for promoting world peace.

The Japan Socialist Party (JSP), issuing a statement on the eve of the Constitution Day Thursday, said drastic reforms in Eastern Europe are affecting the entire world. The JSP, Japan's largest opposition party, said the new move toward coexistence, peace, and disarmament is the main thrust of the Constitution.

Japan is being called on to take bold initiatives in encouraging the new mood in Europe to spread to Asia and the Pacific by giving new meaning to the ideals in its Constitution, the party said. Article Nine in the Constitution, put into effect on May 3, 1947, forbids the nation from involvement in war as a means of solving international disputes.

Komeito also emphasized the Constitution's role in facilitating a historical shift to dialogue and cooperation from confrontation and tension, a shift typified by the European reforms and in the building of a new and peaceful order in the world.

The Japan Communist Party (JCP) denounced the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu for pursuing a strengthened military alliance with the United States. The party said this runs counter to international opinion seeking the dismantling of military blocs.

The Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) released a statement saying the spirit of the Constitution is firmly rooted in the people as a whole.

The United Social Democratic Party (USDP) statement urged Japan's greater responsibility in advocating pacifism as underlined in the Constitution and in accord with recent trends toward East-West detente and democratic reforms in Europe.

Arson Attack Near Narita Airport Destroys Cars

OW0205020890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0138 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., May 2 KYODO—Twenty-one cars in a parking lot near the New Tokyo International Airport at Narita were destroyed in a predawn fire Wednesday which police suspect was caused by an incendiary device planted by radical groups. The fire broke out at around 3:50 A.M. in a parking lot for the exclusive use of tourists going abroad near the airport, completely destroying 21 parked cars and damaging 11 others, police said. There were no reports of injuries.

Police said they found an empty can, cables, and batteries believed to have been used for a timed incendiary device in the debris.

On February 27, the home of the president of a major construction company in Tokyo was damaged in a fire, and later an extreme leftist group opposed to the expansion of the airport said its members were responsible.

On April 12, the 53-year-old wife of an aircraft business executive died and the executive suffered burns in a fire at their home in Yokohama suspected to have been set by extremists.

Forty Hackers Said To Develop Computer Viruses

OW0205065590 Tokyo KYODO in English 0546 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Osaka, May 2 KYODO—Recently discovered "computer viruses" hidden in video game software were developed by 40 computer hackers nationwide, the Japan Federation of Computer Clubs said Wednesday. The viruses, called "Naniwa No. 1" and "Naniwa No. 2," have been located in the software for "Far Side Moon," a video game marketed by Artdink, a computer software manufacturer in Chiba Prefecture.

The federation said the viruses are aimed at Sharp X68000 personal computers and fears that as many as half of the 100,000 X68000s in operation may be infected. The viruses, apparently set to be activated in July, are designed to destroy data contained in the infected computers and floppy disks.

A high school student from Kagawa Prefecture, who was among the 40 hackers used to develop the viruses, told the federation he was asked last spring by a man who identified himself as being with a "major computer manufacturer" to help him hatch the viruses.

The high schooler said he received payment last June for the three months of work he put in on the virus project. The firm the man claimed to be an employee of has denied any connection with the case.

Meanwhile, the National Police Agency has initiated its own investigation into the incident, which may be a violation of a law that prohibits impeding a business by

damaging its computers and calculators. The crime carries a penalty of not more than five years in prison and a fine of not more than 400,000 yen, the police said.

Fiscal 1989 Current Account Surplus Said Down

OW0205080690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0718 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—Japan posted a current account surplus of 53,497 million dollars in fiscal 1989, down 30.8 percent from the previous year, the Finance Ministry said Wednesday. The nation's trade surplus in the year fell 26.4 percent from the preceding year to 70,187 million dollars, it said in a preliminary report.

Exports rose 0.2 percent to 267,860 million dollars, while imports grew 14.9 percent to 197,682 million dollars.

In March, the nation's current account surplus came to 8,133 million dollars, up 29.0 percent from Fiscal 1988.

The trade surplus for the month grew 1.3 percent from the previous year to 8,002 million dollars. Exports for the month totaled 25,532 million dollars, down 1.4 percent from the year earlier, and imports dropped 2.6 percent to 17,530 million dollars.

More on Current Account Surplus

OW0205102190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0901 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Tokyo, May 2 KYODO—Japan's current account surplus shrank 30.8 percent in fiscal 1989 that ended March 31 for the third straight year, the Finance Ministry reported Wednesday. The surplus in the current account, which measures trade in goods and services, fell 23,777 million dollars in fiscal 1989 from the previous year to 53,497 million dollars, ministry officials said.

The contraction in the current account surplus was primarily a reflection of the 26.4 percent decline from a year earlier to 70,178 million dollars in the country's merchandise trade surplus, the officials said.

All the figures are before seasonal adjustments.

The 53 billion dollar surplus in the current account was well within the targeted surplus of 61 billion dollars the Government had set for fiscal 1989.

Following the recent narrowing trend in merchandise trade surplus, imports rose 14.9 percent to 197,682 million dollars, while exports were virtually unchanged, inching up 0.2 percent from the previous year to 267,860 million dollars.

Imports posted a double-digit increase for three years in a row, though the growth in export activity leveled off after three years of double-digit increases, the ministry said. The imports of manufactured products accounted for 50.4 percent of the total import value in fiscal 1989, topping the 50 percent line for the first time, the ministry said.

A Finance Ministry official said the favorable downtrend established recently in both the current account and trade surpluses would continue for the years ahead. The tempo in the shrinkage of these surpluses might decelerate, the official said, pointing to fluid factors such as the foreign exchange rate and crude oil prices, which he said could slow the pace of reduction.

The current account surplus is projected to hit the Government's targeted range of 2.0-2.2 percent of the country's Gross National Product (GNP) for fiscal 1989, the official said.

The ministry also said in its preliminary report that the current account and underlying trade surpluses widened in March for the first time in 13 months.

In March, the current account surplus rose 29.0 percent from 6,304 million dollars a year earlier to 8,133 million dollars. The turnaround came after 12 months of year-on-year falls in the current account surplus, officials said.

The trade surplus was also up 1.3 percent to 8,002 million dollars in March from the year before. The trade figures issued by the Finance Ministry measure trade when contracts are settled.

The latest report said that exports fell to 25,532 million dollars for the sixth consecutive month, a decrease of 1.4 percent from the 25,895 million dollars in March 1989.

Imports also decreased to 17,530 million dollars, down 2.6 percent from the 17,992 million dollars a year earlier. The year-on-year decline in the value of imports was the first in three years, officials said.

Before seasonal adjustment, the invisible trade deficit was 12,710 million dollars in fiscal 1989, narrower than the deficit of 13,521 million dollars a year earlier. Invisible trade, which is part of the current account, measures transactions in shipping, insurance, tourism, banking, and other services. The large deficit in the category was in part due to a wider deficit in the tourism account, reflecting the continued overseas travel boom among Japanese.

Meanwhile, profits from overseas investment by Japanese corporations, also one of the elements of the invisible account, surged to a surplus of 27,263 million dollars in fiscal 1989, widening from a surplus of 21,160 million dollars the previous year.

The tourism account saw a deficit of 19,647 million dollars in fiscal 1989, widening from a deficit of 17,525 million dollars the previous year. The number of Japanese traveling abroad rose 13.1 percent to 9.95 million in fiscal 1989, but travelers' per-capita spending decreased to 2,312 dollars from the preceding year's 2,324 dollars in the wake of the yen's weakness, the ministry said.

In March, the balance of invisible trade posted a surplus of 1,085 million dollars against a deficit of 405 million dollars.

The U.S. dollar averaged 148.90 yen in March, appreciating 14 percent against the yen from the average rate of 128.06 yen in the same month a year earlier, according to the ministry.

The transfer account, also part of the current account, showed a deficit of 3,971 million dollars, smaller than the deficit of 4,507 million dollars the year before.

The long-term capital account registered a deficit of 100,062 million dollars in fiscal 1989, compared with a deficit of 121,400 million dollars the year before.

The unadjusted overall balance of payments, which measures all flows of funds into and out of the country, showed a deficit of 57,306 million dollars in fiscal 1989.

The figure compared with a deficit of 13,722 million dollars a year earlier.

In March, the unadjusted balance of payments posted a deficit of 757 million dollars, compared with a surplus of 16,005 million dollars a year earlier.

Mongolia

Life of 'Some' Hunger Strikers 'in Danger'

OW0305101590 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] In Ulaanbaatar, a small group of the Mongolian Democratic Association members declared a sit-in strike on Wednesday [2 May] as a sign of solidarity with the hunger strike in Moron, the administrative center of northern Mongolian Aymag Hobsgol.

As was informed on April 28, 15 members of the Mongolian Democratic Association branch in Hobsgol declared a hunger strike protesting against the resolution of the Mongolian People's Great Hural on holding mass meetings and demonstrations in populated areas of the country.

According to leaflets, the hunger strike continues 100 hours and the life of some hunger strikers is in danger.

Writers Union Elects Temporary Council

OW3004120490 Ulaanbaatar International Service in English 0910 GMT 28 Apr 90

[Text] An extraordinary congress of the Mongolian Writers Union has been held in Ulaanbaatar. The congress discussed the questions of the future of Mongolian literature, renewal of the Mongolian Writers Union, and approved the Union's platform and temporary rules. The congress elected a 15-member General Council of the Mongolian Writers Union. Writer (Dugerjabyn Maam) has been elected chairman of the Mongolian Writers Union.

Mongolian writers have sent a petition to the Mongolian Government asking to grant the right to direct publishing of books.

North Korea

'Fascist Outrage' Against Labor in South Assailed

SK0305044890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 3 May 90

["Desperate Fascist Offensive of Dictatorial Forces"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—The No Tae-u military fascist clique on April 30 took over the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) by hurling more than 2,000 police troops of 19 companies and bloodily suppressed its employees who were staging a sit-in in demand of the resignation of the "government"-installed president and democratisation of broadcasting and arrested over 330 of them.

Commenting on this hideous fascist outrage committed by the No group, NODONG SINMUN today says:

This is an unpardonable criminal act to strictly control the South Korean press and further fascistize it and reduce it to a tool embellishing and beautifying their treacheries and dictatorial politics and a vicious act stifling the human rights of media men and democracy.

The No Tae-u fascist clique has placed the puppet cabinet under an "emergency system" and openly threaten that they will crack down upon all demonstrations and strikes in their initial stage by mobilizing "government" power in face of the "phase of crisis" caused by the expanding strikes of the workers and the struggle of the kbs unionists for the democratisation of the press which is assuming ever more serious dimensions.

The declaration of a wholesale fascist offensive against the democratic forces by the fascist clique is a virtual proclamation of a martial law and a coup d'etat without a gun report to block the road of democracy and maintain the colonial fascist dictatorship in South Korea.

Bayonet rule is not almighty and can never be a way out for the puppets.

If the No Tae-u military fascist clique do not want to follow in the footsteps of their predecessors who were sternly tried by the people and thrown into a dust bin of history, they must give up the fascist suppressive offensive, immediately release all the patriotic people under arrest including workers and pressmen and step down from power without delay, stresses the commentary.

No's 'Reckless Suppression' Causes 'New Crisis'

SK0305054190 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0529 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—Protests of South Korean workers, students and pressmen against the mobilization of police to crack down on the Hyundai heavy industries and the "Korea Broadcasting System" (KBS) reached the climax on May 1 and 2, according to reports.

More than 60,000 workers of 55 trade unions belonging to the "National Council of Trade Unions" (Chonnohyop) went on strikes all at once in 13 areas of South Korea on May 1.

Trade unions in Masan and Changwon held rallies to mark May Day and launched a strike for an indefinite period, and the workers of the Hyundai motors in Ulsan who entered into a two-day strike till May 1 extended the period of their strike.

Workers at the Hyundai heavy industries built barricades on the roads in league with workers of other Hyundai subsidiaries and fought a fierce stone-throwing battle with riot police.

Some 30,000 students of 32 campuses across South Korea including Seoul and Koryo Universities turned out in a struggle that day in protest against fascist clique's crackdown upon the Hyundai heavy industries strikers.

They held worker-student solidarity rallies at their campuses and discussed measures to strengthen support to the Hyundai heavy industries Union. They staged fierce demonstrations after the rallies.

Upwards of 300 students in Ulsan held a meeting to voice support to the strike at the Hyundai heavy industries and announce the May struggle and then staged a demonstration.

In Ulsan Wednesday over 500 workers of Hyundai subsidiaries staged an anti-"government" demonstration against the appeal to "government power" by the fascist clique and the Ulsan Council of Christian Churches in its statement urged a prompt withdrawal of the police force.

Protests of pressmen gained in scope on the occasion of May Day.

Unionists of "Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation" (MBC) started a boycott of programming which would continue till May 6 in protest against the mobilization of police force against the "KBS." The protest involved unionists not only of the head office in Seoul but also of local offices in 14 areas including Pusan and Taejon.

Some 200 office employees of the "KBS" on May 1 held a rally in Youido with more than 300 employees of the "MBC" to protest the police intervention in the "KBS."

The "Christian Broadcasting Service" union Wednesday started the total boycott of programming.

The No Tae-u military fascist clique's reckless suppression is plunging their "regime" into a new crisis.

South's Attitude Toward 'Wall' Criticized

SK0305101690 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1007 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—The International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea (CILRECO) issued a statement on April 25 demanding the removal of the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets in the area South of the Military Demarcatuon Line.

Noting that although the DPRK Government proposed a joint investigation into the concrete wall the South Korean authorities not only refused it but even failed still to send any reply as regards the CILRECO's offer to send an international fact-finding team to both sides' areas of the Military Demarcation Line to verify on the spot whether the concrete wall exists or not the statement said:
the double-faced game of the South Korean authorities who hail the removal of the wall in another country but are dead set against the removal of the wall bisecting Korea proves that they seek only military confrontation and permanent division in Korea.

The CILRECO appeals to all the forces which respect the Korean people's right to self-determination and the world people who love justice and peace to lift up voices strongly demanding the removal of the wall dividing the Korean people.

'Imperialists' Try To 'Bring Cuba to Its Knees'

SK0305060190 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0541 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists are trying to bring Cuba to its knees at any cost by combining ideological with military offensive. What they seek is to undermine the Cuban People's spirit of anti-U.S. independence and belief in socialism through the operation of ideological disintegration, reinforce their armed forces around Cuba, aggravating the tension and, if an excuse is found, stage an armed intervention immediately.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a commentary on the fact that the U.S. Imperialists recently brought another destroyer to their naval base in Guantanamo, Cuba.

Their criminal moves to mount an armed attack on Cuba have reached a very grave stage, notes the news analyst, and continues:
They are directing the sharp edge of their attack to Cuba after their military occupation of Panama.

It is not fortuitous that the U.S. reactionary ruling quarters let no chance pass by without saying they want to see the day when they can say "democracy has been restored" in Cuba as in Panama.

Their scheme to attain their purposes in Cuba is a foolish daydream. The Cuban people is a revolutionary and militant people. Recently Comrade Fidel Castro declared that no weapon, whether conventional or nuclear, would break the will of the Cuban people.

The United States must act with discretion and immediately stop the anti-Cuban campaign.

Kim Il-song Sends Wishes to Poland's President

SK0305060590 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0545 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on May 2, sent a message of greetings to President Wojciech Jaruzelski on the occasion of the National Holiday of Poland.

Expressing the belief that the friendly relations between the two peoples will continue to develop, the message wishes the president and the Polish people successes in their work for the prosperity of the country.

NODONG SINMUN Editorial on May Day

SK0205140090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2330 GMT 30 Apr 90

[NODONG SINMUN 1 May editorial: "The Centennial Anniversary of May Day, the Universal Holiday of the Working Class of the World"]

[Text] Today, our working class and people are significantly celebrating the centenary of May Day, the international festive day of the working class, together with all of the working people in the world. Greeting this day, our working class and people, recalling with great pride the great contributions that they have made to the international cause of the working class through their rewarding struggle, extend firm militant solidarity with the working classes and revolutionary people in all countries of the world.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: May Day is the festive day of the working class of the world. May Day is the day that commemorates the struggle the working class waged to extricate itself from oppression, contempuous treatment, and hunger.

The working class is the revolutionary class that has the historic mission of completely realizing the working popular masses' independence. With the appearance of the working class and the advent of the party of the working class in the arena of history, the working popular masses' struggle for independence has come to be vigorously waged as a consciousness-raising and organized struggle with a goal in mind. The commemoration of May Day reflects the revolutionary advance and active struggle of the working class. It has also been an important occasion in demonstrating every year the militant might and international unity of the working class.

One hundred years have passed since May Day was celebrated as an international festive day. During this period, the working class of the world not only has demonstrated dignity and might as the most independent and revolutionary class, which emancipates itself and shapes its destiny with its own strength, but has also correctly led the revolutionary cause of the working popular masses as befitting the leading class of the revolution. As a result, the iron chains of imperialism, which had oppressed and exploited the popular masses for a long time have been cut off; socialism has appeared as (?symbol) of progress and peace; and many countries of the world have entered the path of independence, sovereignty, and building a new society while removing the yoke of colonialism.

The worldwide changes taking place today in response to the tide of independence, the deepening and developing rvolutionary struggle of the working class, and the proud gains and successes achieved in this course eloquently prove the significance of the revolutionary role of the working class in the history of the world. The history of the revolutionary struggle of the working class and the working popular masses for a century since May Day was first celebrated tells us that the working class and the working masses of the world can cut off the iron chains of enslavement and domination of capitalism and imperialism and can thus defend their independence only when they firmly unite and struggle.

The struggle of the working class and the working popular masses for independence has an international character. Today when the capitalist, imperialist forces—which have trampled underfoot independence—are united internationally and are provoking the revolutionary forces, the working class and people of the world cannot win victory in their struggle for independence without strengthening their international unity and solidarity. The history of the revolutionary struggle of the working class and the working masses is precisely the rewarding course on which they have advanced holding aloft the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle.

Capitalism and imperialism have never given up their exploitation and oppression of the working masses and the small and weak nations in any period of history. They have never presented freedom and independence to the working class and people of their own accord. The history of the protracted struggle of the working class has taught the truth that as long as capitalism and imperialism remain on this earth, the banner of the struggle against imperialism should not be pulled down nor should the struggle be suspended.

All countries, nations, and people of the world that safeguard independence should deeply realize the aggressive nature and craftiness of imperialism and should firmly unite and jointly struggle under the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle for independence. By so doing, they can win independence and sovereignty and build an new society of independence devoid of domination and enslavement.

The working class and people of our country have won proud victory by vigorously waging the struggle for independence, sovereignty, and socialism, holding aloft the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle for independence. Thus, they have made great contributions to the international cause of the working class. Greeting the centennial anniversary of May Day, our working class and people have dignified pride and honor over the fact that they have been infinitely faithful to their national duty and international duty by energetically struggling under the banner of the chuche idea.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song brilliantly elucidated the path along which our working class and people should advance by creating the immortal chuche idea and liberated the fatherland by organizing and leading the heroic anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle. Thus, he has built a powerful socialist state of independence, self-reliance, and self-defense on this land where only backwardness and poverty were rampant in the past.

Our working class has won proud successes and immortal achievements on the road of struggle for independence, sovereignty, and socialism by surmounting all sorts of tempestuous trials under the leadership of the party and the leader. Over the course of modeling the whole society after the chuche idea, our working class has also outstandingly performed its revolutionary role as the leading class of the revolution and vigorously demonstrated its might as the core unit of our revolution.

Indeed, the working class of our country is the heroic working class, the revolution-mindedness and combat capability of which are lofty, high, and sagacious and which possesses great strength. It is a great pride of our people to have such a working class, which, firmly rallied around the party and the leader as one, is vigorously struggling. All successes, achievements, and experiences gained by our working class and people under the leadership of the party and the leader are immensely valuable and proud. They have constituted a great contribution to accelerating the international cause of the working class.

Historic experiences of our revolution show that the working class can perform its mission and role in the revolution and construction only when it struggles, firmly rallied around its party and leader. The party's leadership is the source of the invincible strength of the working class and the people. The working class and people that rally around the party can form the strong main force of the revolution and display an invincible might. However, the working class and people that do not do so become enervated. Our working class and people, defining the firm realization of the party's leadership in the revolution and construction as their vital demands, have vigorously advanced along the single road designated by the party.

Marking May Day today, our working class and people are overflowing with the great dignity and pride of advancing and carrying out the revolution upholding the great leader and are filled with the firm determination to vigorously struggle for a greater victory while foreseeing from the greatness of the party and the leader the final victory of the revolution and a bright future for the fatherland. Our working class and people are today faced with the honorable task of further consolidating and developing our socialist system, actively acclerating the revoution and construction, and vigorously accelerating the anti-imperialist cause of independence, holding high the banner of unity.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, has indicated: The Workers' Party of Korea and the Korean people will firmly unite with socialist countries, the international working class, the people of the nonaligned countries, and all of the progressive people of the world under the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle for independence, will actively struggle for the victory of the Korean revolution and the world's revolution, and will outstandingly perform their national and international duties.

Further enhancing the revolutionary role of the working class under the party's leadership constitutes an important requirement for consummating the revolutionary cause. The course of building socialism and communism is essentially the course of the working classification of the entire society, and the working class plays a leading and decisive role in reforming and changing society in a revolutionary manner.

The working class of our country is the most revolutionary class, which has been indoctrinated and fostered by the great party and the leader. Our working class should perform its honorable mission and role in the implementation of the cause of modeling the entire society after the chuche idea as befitting the leading class of the revolution, which has been fostered under the leadership of the party and the leader. Our working class should vigorously push ahead with the work of further revolutionizing itself in conformity with the party's confidence and expectations and, thus, should make active contributions to the work of modeling the entire society after the chuche idea.

Firmly strengthening the might of the socialist system of chuche and highly enhancing its superiority is our working class' important task, which arises in performing its historic mission and role at present. The boundless vitality of our socialism and its invincible might find expression in the fact that it has embodied the great chuche idea. Our socialism is the socialism of vitality, and it is growing and developing, taking deep root in the history of the protracted struggle of our revolution. It is also the superior socialism, which has been chosen by our own people and which has been built in conformity with the specific circumstances of our country. Our working class and people should cherish in their hearts great revolutionary pride and national dignity over the fact that such outstanding socialism has been built in our country under the leadership of the party and the leader.

Holding higher the banner of the chuche idea we should consistently implement the party's line and policies. In particular, we should vigorously push ahead with the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cutlural—while strengthening the people's power and constantly enhancing its functions and roles. It is important to deeply cherish faith toward socialism and to resolutely adhere to working class principles.

The revolutionary cause of the working class may undergo difficulties and trials. However, it is an unbreakable historic truth that this cause will be finally victorious. No matter how frantically the imperialists may run amok to block the advance of the revolutionary cause of the working class and to efface socialism, they cannot overturn the flow in the progress of history.

Our working class and people are keenly aware of the essential superiority of socialism over capitalism and are firmly convinced of the inevitability of downfall of the imperialists, who indulged in bravado and bluster.

It is a consistent principle of struggle of our party and people to accelerate the socialist construction by upholding the banner of self-reliance. Today our people are carrying out enormous tasks of socialist construction under difficult conditions in which we are bearing heavy burdens as we are in direct confrontation with the U.S. imperialists. However, we are filled with the firm conviction that when we struggle with the spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle under the leadership of the party and leader, there is nothing that we cannot accomplish.

Our working class and people should register greater exploits in the struggle to accomplish the tasks set forth in the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address and the decisions of the 17th Plenum of the 6th party Central Committee and should effect a great upsurge in production and construction.

It is an important task for the working class and people of the North and the South to struggle for national reunification by ending the nation's division. Today the ardent aspirations to reunify the nation by putting an end in the nineties without fail to the nation's division, which began in the forties, are teeming in our nation.

In order to achieve the cause of national reunification, the working class in the North and the South should attain firm unity as fellow countrymen and should strengthen militant solidarity. Proceeding from this intent, we appealed to the workers in the North and the South to hold joint celebrations in Pyongyang and Seoul to mark the centenary of May Day. However, nothing resulted from this due to the hindrance maneuvers of the South Korean authorities.

Our working class in the northern half of the Republic is sternly denouncing the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique for having deprived the working class of the right to commemorate May Day—its international festive day—and for oppressing the working class. Our working class is firmly determined to tenaciously fight for national reunification based on fraternity and class solidarity with the South Korean working class.

The South Korean workers should courageously carry out the struggle to smash the enemy's maneuvers to repress the labor movement under a deceitful signboard of industrial peace and to recover their human rights and the rights to existence by attaining a more solid organizational unity. They should also struggle for independence, democracy, and national reunification.

The working class and people in the North and the South will achieve the cause of national reunification without fail with the united strength of the people by checking and frustrating the antinational northern policy of the splittists for two Koreas and their maneuvers for a separate entry into the United Nations.

It is a firm principle of our party and people to strengthen the militant solidarity and common struggle with the revolutionary people of the world by upholding the anti-imperialist banner for independence.

Safeguarding the banner for anti-imperialist struggle is a firm guarantee for defending the nation's independence and advancing the revolution.

If the people give up the anti-imperialist position by forgetting the true nature of capitalism, they cannot expel the imperialists' maneuvers for aggression and subordination and will lose even the revolutionary gains they have already won.

Our party and people are tenaciously struggling against the imperialists' aggression and war by highly and consistently upholding the revolutionary banner for anti-imperialist struggle. Thus, we are firmly defending the socialist cause.

Our people will, in the future, too, tenaciously struggle against the imperialists by continuously upholding the banner of anti-imperialist struggle and will further strengthen international common action in the anti-imperialist struggle.

In waging the worldwide anti-imperialist struggle, it is important for the working class and parties in each country to take a firm anti-imperialist position and to actively struggle against the imperialists.

The working class and people, who are building socialism, should be keenly aware of their class basis, not forgetting their past when they were exploited and oppressed. Only by so doing, can they firmly defend the socialist gains. Unity and militant solidarity are mighty weapons of the working class and a lofty idea put forward by May Day.

All tasks raised in accelerating the anti-imperialist cause for independence can be excellently resolved only when the working class and revolutionary people of the entire world unite their strength and closely cooperate with one another as class comrades.

The working class and parties in all nations of the world should further strengthen international unity and solidarity based on the principle of independence and mutual respect for the common objective, for the anti-imperialist cause for independence. In addition, strengthening each national unit is important.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il, based on his scientific insight into the trend of change in social class composition of the present era, profoundly elucidated that the rate of workers who are engaged in technical labor in developed capitalist countries has increased because the social and class foundation of communist parties and workers' parties has been expanded rather than weakened.

Communist parties and workers' parties can advance the revolutionary cause to victory when they firmly organize the main force of the revolution by raising the consciousness of a broad range of the working masses and organize them in conformity with the realities that have changed the social and class composition.

Independence, friendship, and peace are the basic ideals of our party's foreign policy. Our party and the government of the Republic will develop friendship and cooperative relations with the progressive people of the world, including the people of socialist countries and the nonaligned countries. We will actively support and encourage the struggle of the people in all nations for independence, peace, national sovereignty, and social progress.

We will make active efforts to develop the South-South cooperation in all domains of politics, economics, and culture with the spirit of unselfish cooperation proceeding from the position of genuine equality and mutual benefits.

The cause of the working class is the cause of justice. Only victory and glory lay before the working class and people who fight by upholding the banner of the anti-imperialist cause for independence.

Our party and people will remain endlessly loyal to the national and international mission assigned to us, and will uphold the revolutionary banner of the chuche idea under the leadership of the party and the leader. We will vigorously fight to achieve the cause for independence of the entire world.

1st Session of 9th SPA To Convene on 24 May

SK0305020090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 2 May 90

[Public notice on the convening of the SPA session]

[Text] The Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly [SPA] informs the deputies to the SPA of the fact that the first session of the 9th SPA of the DPRK will be convened on 24 May 1990 in Pyongyang. The registration of the deputies will be on 22 and 23 May 1990 at Mansudae Assembly Hall.

[Signed] The Standing Committee of the DPRK SPA
[Dated] 2 May 1990, Pyongyang

Manmade Rivers for Irrigation Being Built

SK0305104190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1030 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Pyongyang May 3 (KCNA)—Man-made rivers with a total extension of 400 kilometres and averaging 30 metres in width have made their appearance in the west coastal area of Korea.

This area is a leading grain producer of the country.

Pointing out that the 400 kilometre long channels will help resolve the problem of irrigation water on hundreds of thousands of hectares of arable land and tideland-turned fields in this area and markedly increase the production of grain there, Kim Song-kap, vice-director of the irrigation department of the agricultural commission, confidently said 150,000 more tons of grain is expected to be produced in the Yonbaek Plain in South Hwanghae Province.

The new irrigation channels have more than 1,530 structures of various kinds. Among them are scores of kilometres of waterway tunnels at some 50 spots and 10 water bridges. More than 420 large-size pumping setups have been built.

The water of the Taedong River which has turned into a man-made lake at its estuary with the construction of the west sea barrage flows through the West Sea Barrage-Onchon Second-Stage Waterway, the West Sea Barrage-Lake Changsu Counter-Current Waterway, the Nam River-Miru, Sangwon-Ungu, Chunghwa-Tongsan, Yokpo-Hamchon and other waterways which were opened some time ago.

The water of the Nam River, a tributary of the Taedong River, is lifted 210 metres up by 12-stage large-size water pumps to flow through a 52 kilometre water channel and irrigate more than 20,000 hectares of paddy and non-paddy fields in Singye, Koksan and Suan Counties, North Hwanghae Province.

To complete the project the constructors have carried out a very huge amount of work in less than half a year such as 1,004,000 cubic metres of earth work, removal of nearly 40,000 cubic metres of bedrocks, 32,350 cubic metres of concrete tamping, more than 11,200 square metres of rubble work and the construction of 144 structures.

Such projects were carried out in other western areas.

The new 400 kilometre man-made rivers as long as the Taedong River, one of the five long rivers of Korea, have been linked to the already completed irrigation system to bring into shape a big loop-line of the irrigation networks.

As a result, the already completed irrigation of the country has reached a new higher level.

South Korea

Talks Under Way With USSR on Diplomatic Ties

SK0305074490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0736 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—Discussions are under way between South Korea and the Soviet Union on the timing of official talks to set up diplomatic ties, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday [3 May]. But dispatch of a government delegation to Moscow scheduled for May has been delayed by Soviet internal problems, Chong Ui-yong said.

The discussions are between Kong No-myong, head of the Korean Consular Department in Moscow, ranking Soviet Foreign Ministry officials and Communist Party officials, including Karen Brutents, first deputy head of the Communist Party Central Committee's International Department, Chong said.

High in priority are the timing of opening official negotiations, agenda and forming delegations from both sides, Chong said.

The Korean Government expects contacts between the two sides on normalizing ties to be activated by a meeting between Vice Foreign Minister Yu Chong-ha and his Soviet counterpart, Ernest E. Obminskiy, in New York on April 25, Chong said.

He said it was not known who will head the Korean delegation to Moscow. The two sides had agreed to open official talks on opening diplomatic ties in May.

Official Claims USSR Support for UN Entry

SK0305014490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0134 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—The Soviet Union, in a fundamental reversal of a long-held position, has come out in support of South Korea's independent admission to the United Nations, a high-ranking South Korean Government official said Thursday. Speaking on condition of anonymity, he said the turnaround on supporting separate U.N. membership by South Korea came when senior Soviet and Korean diplomats met in New York on April 25.

During the highest-level diplomatic contact between Seoul and Moscow, Deputy Foreign Minister Ernest Ye. Obminskiy expressed his government's willingness to support Seoul's admission to the United Nations, he said. "Under the principle of universality of U.N. membership, all nations are qualified to join the world body and the Republic of Korea is no exception to this principle," Obminskiy was quoted as saying during the meeting with Yu Chong-ha, the Korean vice foreign minister.

The official said the Soviet Union, a staunch ally of North Korea and supporter of Pyongyang's policy on reunification of the Korean peninsula, repeated its new stand in the course of bilateral consultations on the dispatch of a group of negotiators to Moscow. North Korea has maintained the position that a single or simultaneous entry into the world body by North and South Korea could perpetuate the division of the peninsula.

"The Soviet Union is expected to reaffirm its support for the government's bid for entry into the United Nations when officials from the two sides meet in Moscow in June-July to discuss the establishment of diplomatic ties," the official said. It is difficult, however, for Seoul to join the world body this year as China objects to single entry, he said. "Unless there is remarkable improvement in Seoul-Beijing relations, it is hardly possible for Seoul to join the United Nations independently," he said.

U.N. membership of South and North Korea was discussed in depth during the recent Soviet-China talks in Moscow and the question of Korea's admission will be resolved in the near future, he said. Seoul plans to make the question a major topic of discussion with Moscow over the next few days, asking for cooperation in encouraging Beijing and Pyongyang to drop their opposition to Seoul's U.N. membership, the official said.

Nazarov Speaks on Soviet Economic Cooperation

SK0105003990 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 28 Apr 90 p 5

[Highlights of speech by Valeriy Nazarov, head of the Soviet trade office in Seoul, at Continental Research Seminar by reporter Kim Sok-hwan]

[Text] On 27 April, Valeriy Nazarov, head of the Soviet trade office in Seoul, made a speech at the Continental Research Seminar which was jointly held by the CHUNGANG ILBO Company, the Continental Research Institute, and the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In the speech, he said that it is true that Korean enterprises lack the legal and systematic mechanisms for Korean enterprises to extend their businesses to the Soviet Union with assurance. However, since the Soviet Government is in the process of making complementary measures, it seems that there will be gradual improvement in this field. The following are highlights of the speech made by Mr. Nazarov entitled "Prospects for Economic Cooperation Between Korea and the Soviet Union."

While carrying out the perestroyka policy, the Soviet Union showed much change in its foreign policies.

This is the same with the changes in the Soviet's policy toward Korea and the direct opportunity for both countries to promote their relationship was due to the '88 Seoul Olympics.

The Soviet's diplomacy of the 'new thought' policy is part of an effort to make a new world order. Therefore, the Soviet Union is working to improve relations with

the U.S., Japan, and China and work to improve relations with Korea is also being carried out within this category.

Currently, the main policy toward Korea by the Soviet Union is to carry out economic exchanges between the two countries.

However, it still seems that the Korean people are apprehensive about the Soviet's approach toward Korea.

Korea and the Soviet Union are not only neighboring nations geographically but economically, both countries possess the structure of mutually complementing each other. Therefore, in order to achieve a more expanded and improved relationship between the two countries, both countries must further plan to understand each other more.

The Soviet Union Week event which will be held in late May at the Korea Exhibition Center (KOEX) will be a good opportunity.

What the Koreans need to know at this point is the fact that for the time being the Soviet Union will export primary products such as coal, gas, and petroleum to Korea. However, the Soviet Union possesses up-to-date technology of which the world is envious.

Therefore, it is necessary for both countries to find methods to actualize cooperation between the two countries and it is also important to consider methods for cooperation between the two countries to apply the Soviet's up-to-date technology.

U.S. Soldier, Koreans in Scuffle at Air Base

SK0305090090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0848 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—A U.S. soldier received minor injuries Monday night in an "altercation involving a group of Korean men outside" Seoul Air Base in Songnam, the U.S. Forces Korea said in a news release Thursday.

Sgt. Wayne B. Campbell and Staff Sgt. Jimmy L. Shade of the 501st Aviation allegedly bumped into the Koreans while returning to the base at about 11:30 P.M., touching off an argument, according to the unconfirmed U.S. report.

The soldiers ran away and the Koreans began chasing them, but then Campbell allegedly stopped and struck two of the men, it said. Campbell, who claims he was knocked to the ground, kicked and struck with a stick, was released to his unit after treatment at a U.S. military hospital, it added.

U.S. military authorities and Korean police are investigating the incident.

Weapons Purchased Under 'Less Favorable Terms'

SK2904161290 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 24 Apr 90 p 5

["Focus" column by Pang Hyong-nam: "Korea Purchases Weapons From the United States Under Unfavorable Terms—Examples Shown in U.S. Department of State Data"]

[Text] In purchasing expensive weapons from the United States, Korea has signed purchasing contracts under terms much less favorable than other countries.

It is a custom in international weapons deals for exporting countries to provide importing countries with offsets by allowing importing countries to supply weapons parts and other goods to exporting countries in return for such weapons deals. However, Korea has had offsets less favorable than other countries.

Recent data of the U.S. Department of State show that during the 1980-1987 period, Korea imported weapons worth $1.0558 billion, an equivalent of approximately 739 billion won, from 50 U.S. munitions corporations, and that, in return for this, the United States imported Korean goods worth $488 million. This shows that the proportion of offsets for Korea to the amount of deals is only 46.2 percent. This is much less than those for Great Britain, Canada, Spain, and other major countries that import U.S. weapons, and less than the average of those for all the countries that import U.S. weapons, that is, 57 percent.

During the same period, Spain imported weapons worth $2.1513 billion from the United States and exported goods worth $2.8511 billion, 132.5 percent, to the United States in return for its import of weapons. Also, Great Britain exported goods worth an equivalent of 105.3 percent of the amount of its weapons imports. During the same period, 50 U.S. munitions corporations exported weapons worth $34.8169 billion and imported, in the form of offsets, goods worth $19.9291 billion, 57.2 percent of the total amount of exports, from countries that imported U.S. weapons.

It was learned that Korea will agree on an offset of somewhere around 30 percent in concluding the Korean Fighter Program [KFP] to buy F-18's. This shows that terms for Korea's imports of weapons are worsening. The Korean Ministry of Defense explains that we have no choice but to have a less favorable offset because F-18's, which we will import according to the KFP, are equipped with state-of-the-art gadgets and therefore, the United States is reluctant to transfer its technology. However, this is not convincing.

It is difficult to understand this also in view of the fact that, when importing Airborne Warning And Control System planes, Great Britain got an offset of no less than 130 percent of the price of the planes. Also, for some countries, offsets cover sectors that have nothing to do with military sectors. For example, when importing F-16 fighters from General Dynamics, Turkey not only was

allowed to participate in the joint manufacturing of F-16's and to export its goods to the United States, but also received U.S. assistance in building houses, schools, and mosques.

Therefore, Korea must more actively hold negotiations to get a favorable offset when importing expensive weapons from the United States. It is pointed out that this is necessary to increase our exports and to reduce our defense budget, which is appropriated by people's taxes.

Of course, Senator Alan Dixon, a Democrat, to the contrary, presented a bill that calls for reducing offsets. However, offsets for Korea are much lower than the average of U.S. offsets for all the countries.

Exports of Weapons of 50 U.S. corporations during the 1980-1987 period (unit $1 million)

Country	Amount of Exports	Offset	Proportion of Offsets to Amount of Deals
Great Britain	1.8008	1.8965	105.3 percent
Canada	3.8741	3.0242	78.1 percent
Egypt	0.3830	0.0878	22.9 percent
Israel	6.0837	1.3842	22.8 percent
NATO members	0.6674	0.3204	48.0 percent
Korea	1.0558	0.4880	46.2 percent
Spain	2.1513	2.8511	132.5 percent
Sweden	0.3817	0.6633	173.8 percent
Switzerland	0.3709	0.2485	67.0 percent
TOTAL	34.8169	19.9291	57.2 percent (average)

Reporter's Impressions From Visit To North

SK0205125390 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 30 Apr 90 p 1

[Report by U.S.-based correspondent Min Pyong-yong]

[Text] [Editor's Note] Min Pyong-yong, chief editor of the main office of HANGUK ILBO in the United States, made his second visit to Pyongyang after one and a half years. Chief Editor Min had visited Pyongyang for six days from 9 to 14 December 1988, as the first Korean reporter to gather news and report on North Korea. This time he visited North Korea for 15 days from 10 to 24 April. During his stay he covered news of the changes taking place in North Korea since the Soviet Union carried out perestroyka; of the Eighth April Spring Friendship Art Festival (this festival is to celebrate Kim Il-song's birthday); and of the elections of deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly [SPA], which was held on 22 April. This article by Chief Editor Min on his revisit to Pyongyang will be carried in three parts.

[Min] Pyongyang, which I revisited after one and a half years, seemed to show to some extent a "relaxed atmosphere." Even after taking into account the fact that experts on North Korean affairs are saying that most of the things the tourists see in North Korea are usually considered to be well rehearsed, it would have been difficult to rehearse the "relaxed atmosphere" which I felt during my stay there. That "relaxed atmosphere" was somewhat of a surprise to me since I expected Pyongyang to be in a state of bewilderment before the great wave of perestroyka.

It seemed that Pyongyang citizens had formed their own kind of logic and attitude to be prepared to deal with the wind of liberalization that took place in East Europe. A party official, referring to this "wind," said that since North Korea is dealing with this issue in an independent way, there is no big problem. A newspaper reporter, whom I met along the Taedong riverside while he was taking a walk with his young daughter, said somewhat candidly, "We are cautious about the wind of liberalization coming into North Korea. That is because if people live according to their own desires, only confusion will result." He also did not forget to claim, "The reason those kinds of events took place in East Europe was because the communist spirit had weakened. We are living according to our own style."

In others words, he seemed to mean that they are afraid of the wave of liberalization that took place in East Europe, but they are accepting the lessons learned from it within the framework of the chuche idea.

It seemed that preparing for the wave of changes was a nation-wide struggle. Other citizens I talked with consistently denounced the pro-democracy resistance that took place in China in June of last year as a "violent riot" and claimed, as if they had arranged not to contradict each other, that through studies once a week, they listened to international news and criticized the Soviet Union and East Europe.

On 22 April, the elections of deputies to the Ninth SPA were held throughout the nation. Originally, the elections were to be held in November; but they were held seven months earlier. Therefore, the Western side watched to see whether this was a measure to hand over the presidency to Kim Chong-il. However, from the atmosphere in North Korea, there no indication of that.

A cadre of the Workers' Party of Korea said, "What else is there to hand over to the leader Kim Chong-il? He already possesses a lot of power and if there are issues that need to be discussed, he always receives guidance from the president." He emphasized that there was no need to go out of one's way to rush the transfer of power.

Another high-ranking female party official openly said, "Since the president is healthy, the current leadership system will continue for a long time to come."

Moreover, among other things, they said that the Kimchongilia has already become the flower of the nation

and that many songs praising the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il are being sung. They also explained that Kim Chong-il has firmly solidified his basis and is working to further consolidate his position as the successor by leading the so-called second generation of the revolution.

However, it seemed that they were not denying the fact that North Korea was being isolated from the international interdependent community and that the issue of falling behind in the field of technology was a serious problem.

A professor at the Chuche Academy of Sciences said, "I know very well that people are always regarding North Korea as a closed society. However, we have always opened up our doors as the occasion demanded. We have not closed our doors. In the future, there will be no instances of suddenly opening up our doors or closing our doors completely. We will open up our doors when necessary." Nevertheless, he was not able to hide the concern of the society. That is, North Korea is not able to carry out computer education among university students, which is necessary in order to enable the students to keep up with the age of international interdependence.

A cadre who is in charge of the overseas relief work, after talking about various subjects said, "We were negligent in the field of light industry. However, in the nineties we will wage a general march for the light industry." He recognized that North Korea was greatly lacking in the production of daily necessities.

I am not able to correctly perceive the true situation within North Korea by just catching a glimpse of it. However, I did feel that North Korea was straining to digest the shock brought about by the Soviet Union's perestroyka and the great changes that took place in East Europe.

Also, compared to one and a half years ago, I got the impression that North Korea was less closed to international news. Even though North Korea is also ultimately a frontier, I felt that it could not be alienated 100 percent from the world trends.

Seoul Citizen Departs for Reunion in North

SK0205135990 Seoul YONHAP in English 1222 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 2 (YONHAP)—A South Korean woman left for United States Wednesday afternoon to enter North Korea for a reunion with her long-separated son.

Chang Non-pok, 81, plans to apply for a visa to the North Korean Embassy in Beijing for her trip to North Korea in mid-May after stay for a while in the United States where her daughter lives.

Chang, a resident in Seoul, had obtained the South Korean Government permission to reunite his son Pang Il-muk who is known to live in the North Korean city of Kaesong.

The Korean government had also approved the bid of Han Pil-song, a dairy farmer who fled to the South during the Korean war, to visit the North to meet with his relatives, including an Olympic silver medalist sister.

New Delegate to North-South Talks Appointed

SK0305015690 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 May 90 p 3

[Text] Rep. Kim Yong-chae was appointed by House speaker Kim Chae-sun yesterday as new representative to the inter-Korean preliminary parliamentary talks, replacing Rep. Yi Hui-il. The other three delegation members remain unchanged.

Rep. Yi, a follower of Kim Chong-pil, was appointed as energy-resources minister in March.

South Plans To Import Cement From North

SK0305030090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0205 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—South Korea will import cement from North Korea, possibly this month, to offset a shortage caused by a recent boom in construction, according to business sources. Ssangyong Cement Industrial Co. recently purchased 120,000 tons of cement from North Korea through an agent in Hong Kong.

The North Korean cement, due here in May at the earliest, will be mixed with South Korean cement for quality modification, the sources said. South Korea is seeking extra cement from Indonesia, Thailand, Jordan and Syria, but a worldwide construction boom is making it difficult to place big orders. As of the end of April, Korea had imported 101,000 tons of cement. Korea will be able to resume cement exports by July, however, because a production glut is expected once capacity expansion of local producers is completed at the end of May.

Samsung Co. To Import Fish From North Korea

SK3004004890 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 29 Apr 90 p 6

[Text] It seems that Alaska pollack for our supper tables will be brought in on a large-scale from the DPRK.

On 28 April, according to the Ministry of Trade and Industry and the National Fisheries Administration, the Samsung Products Company has decided to bring in 3,000 tons of frozen Alaska pollack from North Korea and has requested their approval.

Therefore, the Ministry of Trade and Industry made inquiries the National Fisheries Administration, and it approved the import of Alaska pollack on the condition that it be sold through the consignment sales stores of the Fisheries Cooperatives as are other fish which are caught off our coasts.

Last year the Hyundai General Trading Company imported 10 tons of Alaska pollack and 3.4 tons of pollack roe from North Korea.

The 3,000 tons of Alaska pollack which the Samsung Products Company will be importing corresponds to 19 percent of the 15,781 tons of Alaska pollack (1989) which were caught off our coasts. It seems that Alaska pollack will be imported from North Korea at a low price.

* North's Economic Zone Seen as Move to Openness

90P30014 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 1 Apr 90 p 2

[By reporter O Tae-chin]

[Text] North Korea, which has maintained its closed economic policy despite strong winds of reform and openness in the Communist bloc, is showing signs of establishing a special economic zone, a symbol of economic openness. Since a special economic zone, which is a special export manufacturing area, is operated according to various capitalist factors, it is often termed a "capitalist island" within a socialist economic structure.

Rumors of North Korea establishing a special economic zone have abounded ever since North Korea enacted and proclaimed its "Joint Venture Law" in 1984 to attract foreign capital, and its realization appears immminent as the foreign media recently have reported on a potential site for the economic zone and detailed preparation efforts. The Chinese newspaper WEN HUI PAO on 30 March reported that North Korea has designated Hapsando, on the Tumen River near the Sino-Soviet burder, as a special economic zone and plans to develop the area as a PRC-USSR-DPRK "trade center," along with the Chinese city of Hunchun and the Soviet city Khasan. In order to develop these nearby border cities into trade centers of not only the three countries but also into a Hong Kong-style international trade center, China, The USSR, and North Korea are trying to transform these cities into "three golder pillars" of Asian trade by using Japanese and South Korean capital and technology, the paper added.

Furthermore, since early last year the media in China, Hong Kong, and Japan have reported that North Korea, having designated Hapsando as the special economic zone, is building railroads and large apartment complexes. The foreign media has reported that the "Choson Trade Center" and the "International Commerce Center" will open in the special economic zone during 1990.

Moreover, North Korea reportedly is expanding its transport, shipbuilding, steel-making, and mining facilities in cities near Hapsando in northern North Hamkyong Province.

It has been expanding facilities at the Tumen River railroad station, which heads to Khasan and Siberia, and at the Namyang Station, which leads to Yanbian, China. It also reportedly has been expanding shipping facilities at Najin and Chongjin ports.

Earlier, at the July 1988 meeting in Tokyo of international academicians on reunifying the Korean peninsula, Vladimir Tikhomirov, division chairman of the Soviet Far East Research Institute's Asia-Pacific division, stated that North Korea will establish a special economic zone during 1990, while expressing the hope for South Korean business participation in the Soviet special economic zone planned for the Soviet Far East.

South Korean experts on North Korea, based on a series of reports and on movements in China, the Soviet Union, and North Korea, believe that North Korea soon will officially announce the establishment of a special economic zone. Some experts have felt for a long time that North Korea may announce the special economic zone in April, the month of Kim Il-song's birthday and when full elections to the Supreme People's Assembly are scheduled—an unprecedented six months ahead of schedule.

Experts on the North Korean economy cite the failure of the joint venture law as the main reason North Korea can no longer neglect the establishment of a special economic zone. Prior to enacting the joint venture law in September 1984, North Korea dispatched a field study team of party functionaries, including Kim Chong-il, government bureaucrats, and local leaders to China's Shenzhen Special Economic Zone. This shows that North Korea used the example of China's special economic zones, the primary example of China's open-door policy, as the textbook for its joint venture law.

The main content of the joint venture law permits all countries, including Western capitalist countries, to establish joint ventures in North Korea with their capital and technology, and to transfer earnings from the joint venture back to their country after being subject to a limited income tax. North Korea's joint venture law provided more favorable investment conditions than did China's in various areas, including tax-free remittances, income tax rates, the income tax exemption period, and personal income tax deductions.

Nevertheless, by October 1989 the number of joint ventures totalled only 53, of which 27 were businesses accociated with the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan. This resulted because North Korea's uncertain profitability, low international credit rating, rigid economic policies, and the small market made investors reluctant to invest. The only way to attract foreign capital has been to establish a special economic zone like in China, but North Korea has deliberately neglected this for fear that its citizens may become ideologically and economically tainted.

Although North Korea still trumpets its self-reliant economy, recently this has been limited to political slogans, and its attitude toward foreign trade has changed noticably. It has begun to acknowledge that "foreign trade is an indispensable factor in speeding up

economic construction, improving the people's livelihood, and in attaining international prestige." At the April 1987 Supreme Peopole's Assembly it decided to increase foreign trade 3.2-times during the Third 7-Year Economic Plan. Since creating the Ministry of Joint Venture under the State Administration Council in November 1988, it has increased the number of trading companies that handle actual trade to more than 100.

However, North Korea's stagnant economy even in 1990, halfway in its third economic plan period, has forced it to seek a breakthrough, one feature of which would be the establishment of a special economic zone. Even if North Korea in fact establishes a special economic zone, it would be difficult for South Korea to immediately participate in it. Nevertheless, people have high expectations of North Korea's special economiz zone, since South Korea can lay a foundation for South-North trade and steadily lead North Korea toward an open economy by investing in nearby Chinese and Soviet special economic zones, thereby contributing toward reduced tension on the Korean peninsula.

Column Assesses No's Upcoming Visit to Japan

SK3004121590 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 21 Apr 90 p 3

["Focus" column by Yi Chae-ho: "Does No Tae-u Have To Go to Japan—Delicate Situation Over His May Visit to Japan"]

[Text] As expected, a visit to Japan by President No Tae-u scheduled for late May has become an issue beyond the realm of summit diplomacy because issues concerning both the past and future of Korea and Japan have been raised.

The September 1984 visit to Japan by former President Chon Tu-hwan, the first ever by a Korean president, was the same. However, the current episode is more serious and delicate than the previous one. This is because the pending issue on the legal status of the posterity of Koreans living in Japan has emerged as the symbol of the unfortunate past in the relations of the two countries. It is a fact that Korea and Japan have said that the visit to Japan by President No would be an opportunity to open new Korean-Japanese relations for the 21st Century. However, if our future is important, the clear and fair rectification of our past must also be important. The legal status of the posterity of Koreans living in Japan has become an issue in rectifying the "past."

This is why, seizing the opportunity of the president's visit to Japan, we would like to hear again a clear-cut stand on the past from the Japanese king [wang]. During the visit to Japan by former President Chon Tu-hwan, late Japanese King Hirohito expressed regret over the past. Strictly speaking, what he said was not an apology. Of course, it is a custom in diplomacy not to use the expression "apology." However, the government judges that in view of the unique history of Korean-Japanese relations and the history of the Japanese imperialists' occupation and exploitation of Korea, he should have more directly mentioned Japan's responsibility.

For the first time in decades, the Soviet Union recently recognized that it massacred 15,000 Polish officers during World War II and made an apology. This news is noteworthy.

This measure by the Soviet Union was warmly welcomed by its neighboring countries as "efforts to improve relations based upon the recognition of truth." This episode is a good example for Korean-Japanese relations, which have been in trouble due to the "issue of the past."

Moreover, it was learned that Japanese King Akihito has a strong desire to visit Korea after President No's visit to Japan. The government thinks it will be difficult to allow Akihito to visit Korea without Japan's clear-cut repentance on its past.

The issue of the Japanese king's expression of regret, in addition to the issue of the legal status of Koreans living in Japan, has added to the historical significance of President No's visit to Japan.

Moreover, Japan has not shown any sign of concession on the issue of the legal status of Koreans living in Japan. Even though President No declared that his visit to Japan is conditional on negotiations on pending issues, no progress has been made except for an agreement in principle to automatically give the resident status to the third generation of Koreans living in Japan and its posterity. It was learned that no progress has been made in more urgent issues, including abolition of the fingerprinting system, exemption of Koreans from a system that requires foreigners to carry foreign registration cards, abolition of a system involving forcible expulsion, and abolition of a system that requires foreigners living in Japan to get permission to re-enter Japan after traveling overseas. Since our side expressed the position that it would not link President No's visit to Japan to the issue of the legal status of Koreans living in Japan, it appears that the Japanese side has reverted to a stronger position.

As issues to be discussed during the president's visit to Japan, the government cites the transfer of state-of-the-art technology and cooperation in scientific and technological sectors; the addressing of trade deficits; cooperation in the Uruguay Round; Korean-Japanese cooperation for economic cooperation in Asia and the Pacific; and cultural exchange, in addition to these two political issues.

In particular, the Japanese side has paid much attention to the Seoul-Pusan high-speed electric train line. Some people think that Japan has a strong stance on the issue of the legal status of Koreans living in Japan because it is even calculating on what it will get in return.

However, none of these pending issues can be solved when linked to the president's visit to Japan. The same pending issues had been cited for discussions before former President Chon visited Japan.

Of course, working-level diplomats point out that summit diplomacy is not conducted just to solve pending issues. They also say that the primary goal of summit diplomacy is to set fundamental guidelines in the relations between two countries and to promote an environment for solving various issues. Also, some diplomats point out a tendency for summit diplomacy to become commonplace with the passage of time.

However, it is difficult to see President No's visit to Japan just from such a general perspective. This is because, as the president himself declared that he may postpone or cancel his trip to Japan if the issue of Koreans living in Japan is not resolved, any pretext under which President No would leave for Japan or any significance which he would attach to such a visit would be nothing but diplomatic rhetoric if the rectification of the past in the truest sense of the word is not achieved.

For this reason, some people in political and governmental circles have a very pessimistic view on the visit to Japan by President No. A diplomat even asked, "Does the president have to visit Japan under these circumstances?" This means that, even though we must recognize the necessity of summit diplomacy, we have no reason to make compromises under circumstances in which the issue of the legal status of Koreans living in Japan has become a yardstick with which to gauge the fair rectification of the past.

In reality, our government recognizes that our side has no other means than "diplomacy" to solve the issue of Koreans living in Japan. This is why some people say that we must use the "emergency card" of the president's visit to Japan under circumstances in which we have no economic or technological means with which to put pressures on Japan.

What a young diplomat said about the president's visit to Japan is noteworthy.

He said: We must not forget that just like we need Japan, Japan needs us. This is because Japan's diplomacy starts on the Korean peninsula. Japan will not be able to efficiently carry out its policy toward the Soviet Union and China if it maintains uncomfortable relations with Korea. Gorbachev is scheduled to visit Japan next spring. This way, the Soviet Union's advance into Northeast Asia and the Pacific will start in earnest. Japan more eagerly wants stable and close relations with Korea. If so, Japan must first make efforts to rectify the past. We cannot see the issue of the Koreans living in Japan and the issue of the Japanese king's apology from anything other than this perspective.

Plans Puzzling Due to 'Crisis'

SK0305020490 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 May 90 p 2

[Following item attributed to "CUB"]

[Text] The government and the ruling party determined the current situation to be comparable to a crisis. As if keeping in line with the critical situation, President No Tae-u appears to be showing that he is in charge and has the resolve to tackle the issue directly. But, one thing that eludes the people is why No is to visit Japan, Canada, the United States and Mexico beginning late this month.

No's visit to Japan is understandable because of pressing issue involving the legal status of Korean residents there. However, it is not plausible for him to visit the three nations on the occasion of the business trip to Japan. This is because there are no pressing problems in need of immediate action in relations with the three nations.

Of course, No may have some long-term diplomatic goal which may necessitate his visit. But, the domestic situation, as the government and the ruling party admit, does not allow him to stay out of the nation for quite a long time at this critical time.

The general public want to see No directly in charge of coping with the current situation. It is regretted that there is no responsible official around No coming out into the open to grapple with the serious national situation characterized by spreading labor unrest at Hyundai, crippling broadcasts at KBS [Korean Broadcasting System] and later MBC [Munhwa Broadcasting System], and the stock market crash.

One ship this time is thought likely to cause the nation to nosedive, enmeshed in a vicious circle of suspicious labor unrest, tainted with political causes. In this sense, former government administration minister Kim Yong-kap can be lauded for his courage to break the KBS stalemate. His activities are seen as Quixotic by many. But no persons in the ruling camp showed as much courage.

Here comes the problematic attitude of the so-called leaders in various segments of society.

At the critical development at KBS and the Hyundai shipyard all they did was curry favor with the picketing workers. They spoke as if they had the best interest of workers at heart. But they did not appeal to many because of their oblique attitude of vacillating between the workers and the government.

For instance, Kang Won-yong, chairman of the Korea Broadcasting Commission, asked the government not to use police force. At the same time, he was also asking KBS workers to refrain any activities likely to give the government an excuse to use police force.

In the heat of the strike at the shipyard and KBS, most unbecoming action came from none other than ruling party co-leader Kim Yong-sam. He said he would not hold on to the chairmanship of his party's chapter in Pusan, where he has been elected seven times.

People were simply perplexed not knowing his real motivation. Why should such action have come about at the time when the nation was apprehensive about the critical development at KBS and the shipyard.

Politicians in Korea are very divisive, obssessed with power. Even at the time when government was pushed way down to the small patch of Pusan and its perimeter during the Korean War, they wrangled with each other for power.

President No, who is not a career politician, should be more assertive in addressing a host of problems as the head of state. It is not a time for making overseas trips.

Economic, Labor Strife Breeds Crisis Atmosphere

Officials Work on Holiday

SK0305021690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 May 90 p 2

[Text] Officials at key government agencies showed up for work as usual yesterday, a national holiday to mark Buddha's birthday, as the government put on a public display of its firm resolution to counter the current crisis. Members of the Presidential Secretariat, Prime Minister's office, the Economic Planning Board and Finance, Trade and Industry, Home and Labor ministries were at their desks in the morning.

The decision to work on holidays was made by Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun Tuesday after meeting with members of his cabinet who concluded that the current situation is a general crisis, and must be solved at the cabinet level. The government fears social unrest may aggravate an already serious situation of rising inflation and nose-diving stock prices. Industrial unrest has revived and street demonstrations by students are expected across the country around May 18, the 10th anniversary of an uprising in Kwangju.

Meeting with Kang to discuss the establishment of order, labor disputes, rampant real estate speculation and the falling stock prices were key cabinet members including Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun and Home Minister An Ung-mo. They agreed that normal state administration is impossible without reform in officialdom and decided to draft comprehensive measures to solve the current difficulties. The measures will be referred to a regular cabinet council today after President No Tae-u has reviewed them.

Finance Minister Returns

SK0305022690 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 May 90 p 1

[Text] Minister of Finance Chong Yong-ui returned home yesterday afternoon, canceling his plan to attend the 23rd annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) slated for New Delhi on May 1-4. Chong left for new Delhi Saturday. On Monday afternoon, however, President No Tae-u ordered him to return home immediately. No's order was given after the President instructed the cabinet to work out a series of measures to cope with the current economic hardships, particularly in the wake of the crash in the Korea Stock Exchange.

DLP Leaders Plan 'Crisis Session'

SK0305024290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—The three top ruling party leaders are to meet in crisis session May 7 to discuss labor disputes, inflation and real estate speculation, a highly-placed ruling party official said Thursday. President No Tae-u, Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil will also tackle amendment of the party constitution prior to a national convention May 9, the official said. No's stand-in, Pak Tae-chun, will also be present.

They will map out steps to solidify party unity in preparation for a late May National Assembly session on amendment of the National Security Law and the Law on Local Autonomy, he said. They will reaffirm their support for the government's direction that non-business purpose land owned by business groups should be sold, noting that it is essential for capital tied up in speculation to be released into the stock market, he said. They will consider levying hefty taxes on land owned by conglomerates, banning corporate land purchases and prosecuting firms that repeatedly speculate in land, the source said. The top two leaders in the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] will be chosen by acclamation from candidates put forward by No in the national party convention, he said.

Action Demanded on Economy

SK0305070690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0653 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), exhibiting a rare anti-business attitude, demanded that the government ban conglomerates from owning land for speculative purposes Thursday [3 May]. Accusing big business of fanning speculation by piling up huge chunks of land for non-business purposes, hurting the economy, the DLP called on the government to buy the land at once.

Rep. Chong Sang-ku said the government was wrong to grant the conglomerates six months to sell their real estate and that it must be done immediately.

"The state should take bold measures, purchasing excess land from the big businesses right away," he said.

Seconding the government's definition of the socio-economic situation as "a serious crisis," the ruling party demanded the administration scale back public projects, revise the timetable for their implementation and map out measures to get the stock market back in good shape. During the session, which followed a key cabinet meeting, the DLP decided to hold the party convention May 9 at the Olympic Fencing Hall in southern Seoul to save money.

Secretary-General Pak Chun-pyong called for an end to factional strife and said coping with the current crisis successfully will restore confidence in the huge government party.

Chief policy-maker Kim Yong-hwan, attributing the economic crisis and inflation to real estate speculation by the conglomerates, said the government should not leave the task of preventing land speculation to banks only but should handle the problem itself by operating a temporary institution.

Floor leader Kim Tong-yong said the administration and DLP should be firmly united in solving such serious problems as strikes, disruption of broadcasting, panic selling of stocks, the housing shortage and skyrocketing prices.

The lawmakers adopted a resolution at the end of the meeting and pledged to use all their energy to stabilize politics and the economy. The resolution states at one point that the lawmakers will serve actively as mediators to settle industrial disputes.

Democratic Broad casting Goal of KBS Strike

SK0305015090 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 3 May 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Normalization of KBS Network"]

[Text] One of the major crises now plaguing the nation is the protracted crippled operation of the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS), the nation's largest TV-radio network, due to a unionized workers' strike in protest against the government appointment of its new president, So Ki-won, a figure whom the unionists oppose as a "pro-government undemocratic stooge."

The spreading social unrest stemming from the KBS dispute has ever amplified, along with that arising from the worsening labor-management dispute at the Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. shipyard at Ulsan, Kyongsangnamto, since more and more unions at other industrial sites, apparently on the occasion of May Day, and in defiance of the government stand, have begun to join in a wave of "sympathy strikes" siding with the unionists at KBS and Hyundai.

Last Sunday the KBS trouble appeared to be about to be settled after its union leader announced a readiness to accept an offer to return to work on the reported condition that the new KBS president resign within a few months. But the terms, which were barely reached through the union leader's meeting with former minister of government administration Kim Yong-kap, who engaged himself in painstaking negotiations with the union side over several hours in the dubious capacity as a private individual or government emissary," were voted down by a general meeting of unionists.

Then only a couple of hours later, the police charged into the KBS building to haul away a total of 333 unionists who were continuing their sit-in protest, making the situation even worse.

The law enforcement authorities have reportedly detained 11 out of the strikers while reporting that the number of detainees would increase as their investigation goes on.

Workers at the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC), another nationwide TV-radio network, and the Christian Broadcasting System, a radio network, have launched time-limited sympathy strikes to protest the police raid on the KBS unionists.

It is apparent that the escalating labor disputes, following on from the KBS trouble at this juncture when the nation is severely plagued with economic difficulties, are adding to a sense of total national crisis.

Both individual citizens and government authorities must refrain from resorting to extreme and violent action in dealing with any disputes. All should be discreet in a joint effort to seek rational solutions to disputes through peaceful dialogue.

The authorities might have been well advised not to have mobilized riot police so quickly to crack down on the strikers, in light of the fact that the number of unionists seeking terms was rising day after day.

Now the KBS unionists are called upon the return to work without delay as their indefinitely prolonged strike cannot be justified in the great cause of the national interests. Their justifiable reasons, if any, for staging the walkout have amply been made public as far as their ultimate goal is only to ensure democratic broadcasting media, free of undue government intervention, as under the previous governments of the Fifth and Fourth Republics.

On the other hand, the government should come up with a new posture to guarantee a democratic broadcasting system in order to honor President No Tae-u's public statement that no one and no government can be allowed to manipulate or control the mass media.

At the same time, all unionists and especially workers at the "public-run" broadcasting stations should not desert their primary mission of reporting vivid news as it is, whatever labor disputes they may be engaged in with management.

In addition, the government is advised to leave the appointment of future KBS presidents to the free choice of the nation's broadcasting commission in accordance with the pertinent law so as to establish a democratic practice in the matter.

Press Union Federation Calls for National Strike

SK0305031890 Seoul YONHAP in English 0242 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—A head-on clash between the entire South Korean media and the government was shaping up Wednesday, when the Korean Federation of Press Unions (KFPU) called for an

unprecedented industrywide work stoppage. KFPU, with 16,000 members in 52 newspapers, radio and television stations and the national news agency, made the call at an emergency meeting and is expected to decide Friday [4 May] on the timing of the sympathy strike to protest a police raid on strikers at the state-run Korea Broadcasting System (KBS) and the arrest of 11 staff members.

The government responded to the threat Thursday by announcing it will arrest 30 more KBS staff on obstruction charges. Some 20 staff, mostly reporters, are suspected of disrupting the nine o'clock news on April 12, the first day of a 19-day strike to protest police intervention and demand that the appointment of new KBS chief So Ki-won be revoked.

KFPU's strike call came as the Munhwa Broadcasting Corp. (MBC), Korea's second TV and radio network, and the Christian Broadcasting Station (CBS) were hit by walkouts as union members protested in sympathy with their KBS colleagues. The KFPU move is feared to bring a head-on confrontation between the government and unionists from all media companies and worsen the situation irreversibly, sources said.

The state-run network remained crippled Thursday, even though the 19-day strike was outwardly broken up Monday night as police forces stormed the KBS headquarters and arrested 333 strikers. Eleven of them were put under formal arrest, 26 booked without detention and the others released. An attempt at a sit-in at the KBS main hall by an estimated 1,000 KBS employees, meanwhile, was forcibly dispersed Thursday morning, when the police intervened to keep them from gathering for the protest rally. The KBS union said it plans to resume a sit-in Thursday and formally asked the police to pull out riot troops posted inside and outside KBS headquarters. More than 700 staff members from the two networks held a rally at MBC headquarters Wednesday and vowed to continue their alliance against the government.

The KBS dispute, unprecedented in Korea's broadcasting history, started when the 4,000-strong KBS union protested So's appointment as unacceptable in early April, charging that he is undemocratic and anti-union as he was presidential spokesman under President Choe Kyu-ha and president of the pro-government daily SEOUL SHINMUN and was closely connected with dictatorial rulers. The government, defining the union's call as infringement upon its right to manage personnel at the state-run network, used a force of 2,500 riot police to break the strike. But brute force has failed to normalize KBS, which has a virtual monopoly with three of four TV channels and eight of 12 radio stations and more than 7,000 employees in its headquarters and district stations in 25 cities. It is uncertain how many members of the press might heed the strike call by KFPU, which says the government is trying to suppress all the media, the sources said.

'Stringent Measures' Against Strikes Ordered

SK0305024690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0200 GMT 3 May 90

["Top Prosecutor Orders Strong-Arm Methods Against Wave of Strikes"—YONHAP headline]

[Text] Seoul, May 3 (YONHAP)—Prosecutor-General Kim Ki-chun ordered stringent measures Thursday [3 May] against a wave of industrial unrest washing across South Korea and demanded the prompt arrest of anyone participating in an "illegal collective action." Kim also put the nation's prosecutors on 24-hour alert until all the strikes have been suppressed.

His directives came in an emergency meeting of prosecutors in charge of labor unrest as strikes at the Hyundai shipyard and the Korea Broadcasting System spread to other sectors, causing what Kim said was serious social instability. At Kim's orders, the prosecution will begin a crackdown on union organizers and "left-leaning elements" who penetrate labor movements, prosecutors said. The prosecution has drawn up a list of suspected militant unionists at worksites where disputes are frequent and is screening 32 radical labor leaders for possible prosecution in relation with May Day strikes. The prosecution regards all current strikes as illegal, saying they are political struggles beyond the limits of union activities. Actions to be under intense prosecution investigation include violence during disputes, attacks on government buildings, job actions at hospitals and defense contractors, and third-party meddling.

Most Hyundai Subsidiaries Resuming Operations

SK0305053690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0529 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Ulsan, Korea, May 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—Eight of 12 Hyundai subsidiaries here, crippled by sympathy strikes to protest a police crackdown on strikers at the Hyundai shipyard, resumed operations Thursday as 80 percent to 90 percent of the workforce clocked in, company officials said. Workers at four Hyundai subsidiaries in this strike-shattered industrial city were to vote on whether they will remain on strike later in the day. If they go back, the situation here may soon return to normal. The worst stage was when police routed striking workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. last Saturday. The trade unions had earlier decided to hold sympathy strikes at dates set by themselves to protest the police intervention in the shipyard strike and motor plant workers staged a four-day work stoppage until Thursday. Management of the shipyard called for a resumption of operation Thursday. Most workers refused to return to work but some 4,700 management personnel reported, the officials said. About 100 militant workers perched atop a goliath crane at the shipyard for a sixth day amid rumors that a police operation to arrest them was imminent. Meanwhile, 10 unions from the national alliance of

trade unions went on strike Thursday to protest the government's crackdown on the shipyard workers, union leaders said.

Workers at Hyundai Plants Resolve Work Issue

SK0305105590 Seoul YONHAP in English 1041 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Ulsan, Korea, May 3 (OANA-YONHAP)—Tension in this strike-shattered industrial city has eased substantially as workers at all of the 12 Hyundai subsidiaries here have already returned to work or decided to do so. The leadership council of the Hyundai Motor Co. labor union decided Thursday [3 May] by a close vote of 12 to 11 to return to work on Monday after putting an end to their strike which it has led to protest a police raid on strikers at the Hyundai shipyard last Saturday.

Operation at the motor plant will be resumed from Monday as was previously decided in a general meeting of the unionists.

Hyundai Wood Industries Co. was restored to normal soon after a deputies meeting of the unionists passed a motion calling for the stoppage of their solidarity strike by 35-32 earlier in the day. About 1,000 workers began working from 11 A.M. Works were also resumed at Hyundai Mipo Dockyard Co. after the unionists discredited their leadership council in a confidence vote.

In Hyundai Heavy Industries Co., center of the current labor unrest here, about 4,700 non-unionist staff members reported to prepare for the normalization of the work but the operation was not normalized yet.

Meanwhile, about 1,000 workers staged demonstrations sporadically Thursday morning but voluntarily dissolved in the afternoon. Two workers who have been staging sit-in protests atop of the 84-meter goliath crane at the shipyard voluntarily descended from the crane and are under probe by police. They said there were 80 workers on the top of the crane.

The strikes followed police crackdown on striking workers at Hyundai Heavy Industries Co. last Saturday.

No Urges 'Powerful' Measures To Curb Inflation

SK3004134590 Seoul YONHAP in English 1132 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Seoul, April 30 (YONHAP)—Amid mounting skepticism about his government's capability to manage economic crisis, President No Tae-u Monday instructed Deputy Prime Minister Yi Sung-yun and his economic team to work out and carry out "powerful" measures to curb inflation and real estate speculation.

No also ordered the establishment of a "special team" for managing real estate speculation in the office of senior presidential secretary for economic affairs which will supervise government works related with those measures.

The chief executive instructed Finance Minister Chong Yong-eui to cut short his stay in New Delhi and immediately return to Seoul for joining a work for setting up the anti-inflation measures. Chong left Seoul Saturday for New Delhi to attend the 23rd annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank slated for May 1-5.

Yi was told to work out "special measures" aimed at stabilizing the real estate market, including those that May encourage securities and insurance companies to dispose of their real estate holdings. No stressed the need to stabilize the prices of immovable properties and asked Yi to strengthen the standard of judgement applied in the classification of business and non-business purpose holdings with regard to land owned by private enterprizes.

Presidential press secretary Yi Su-chong said No's instruction Monday was made in view that the future of the national economy hinges largely on how the government handles pressing problems accruing from inflation and real estate speculation.

Yi denied the possibility of enacting a presidential emergency decree as part of the government's effort to solve the economic problems by saying, "President No has a view that a shock treatment is not desired at this stage."

There were no official explanation available about whether No's instruction had something to do with the worst-ever crisis facing the nation's stock market. No has been pressed by the stock investors to take up strong measures to fight real estate speculation as part of a bid to rescue the stock market from a possible collapse.

The stock market posted an all-time biggest single-day fall to set back to an 18-month low on Monday.

Pace of Capital Market Liberalization Discussed

SK3004101290 Seoul YONHAP in English 0658 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Seoul, April 30 (OANA-YONHAP)—The battering South Korea's stock market received last week has prompted scholars and stock analysts to call on the government to delay opening the nation's capital market.

The scholars and analysts say the market's year-long decline from a peak in April last year and its recent crisis reveal its weakness and suggest a delay in capital market opening of one or two years. The government has vowed to fully liberalize the money market by 1992.

Officials at the Finance Ministry and Korea Stock Exchange hold the opposite view, saying that postponing capital market liberalization would accelerate the market's slide and that rescheduling is impossible because market liberalization is an agreement with the United States.

The stock market peaked when the Composite Stock Price Index climbed to 1007.77 points on April 1, 1989, and has since lost over 287.4 points or 28.5 percent as of Saturday.

Those on the side of postponement note that the liberalization schedule was set up on the premise that the market would continue steady, stable growth.

Because the market is near collapse and an early recovery is impossible to expect, it is necessary to adjust the schedule, they say.

Under the present situation, in which institutional investors' share in the market remains at a mere 20 percent, there is no device to prevent market manipulation by foreign fund managers, and full liberalization of the market by 1992 is premature, they say. Hong Won-tak, a professor at Seoul National University, says Korea needs to reconsider the pace of liberalization based on the stock market situation.

Japan opened its capital market only after its stock market was at a considerably high level, he says.

Yi Kun-sik, a professor at Seoul Municipal College, says that it is a matter of course for capital market liberalization to be delayed now that the government has scrapped the mandatory use of real names in financial transactions. Manipulation of the stock market by foreign capital cannot be avoided as long as investments are possible with false names, he claims.

Meanwhile, the Finance Ministry takes the position that it is difficult to change the schedule agreed upon with Washington and that it is the wrong time to reconsider the schedule although the stock market is sinking rapidly.

Other stock market experts warn that thorough preparations are needed before liberalization.

Reporter Analyzes Student Movement in Nineties

SK0205051690 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 18 Apr 90 p 16

[By reporter Sin Yun-sok]

[Text] During the fourth general meeting of the National Council of University Student Representatives [Chondaehyop] held at Kyonghui University on 10 and 11 April, Song Kap-sok, president of the General Student Association of Chonnam University, was elected as Chondaehyop's new chairman. At this meeting, Chondaehyop made an official announcement on the direction and schedule of its future struggle. Accordingly, an outline of the student movement in the nineties was revealed.

Chondaehyop has designated the period from late 1992 to early 1993—the time of shift of government—as the "period of inevitable struggle between nationalist forces for the democratic movement and the ruling class." Chondaehyop believes that its vitality will depend on how the student movement sphere will cope with the inauguration of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP].

It is Chondaehyop's view that since the DLP came to power following a political situation dominated by security affairs, the political offensive to split and isolate the movements forces from the infrastructural masses and the middle-class has been fiercely carried out and therefore, Chondaehyop should pave the way for launching an immediate counter-offensive.

Based on an analysis of the prevailing situation, Chondaehyop, in its "resolution for the general line of its 4th-term leadership" which includes its future strategy and tactics, assumed the anti-DLP struggle as its greatest task. Chondaehyop is continuing discussions on how to link the anti-DLP struggle with the anti-U.S. struggle for independence and national reunification which it carried out as its major movement in the past.

Chondaehyop observes the founding of the DLP as a reactionary offensive aimed at eliminating the nationalistic democratic movement forces, as the incumbent regime's advance step for long-term power, and as work to pave the way for the perpetuation of the division of the North and the South. Chondaehyop also analyzes that the founding of the DLP is designed for the "great collaboration of pro-U.S. conservatives according to the U.S. strategy for consolidating its colonial ruling system in South Korea which is facing a crisis."

Therefore, with the "rally of one million students" to be held on 19 April marking the 30th anniversary of the 19 April uprising as a start, Chondaehyop will launch an overall comprehensive anti-DLP struggle, which it carried out only in a limited manner in February and March. On 3 May when the DLP Congress is scheduled, Chondaehyop will stage a nationwide strike and demand the resignation of the incumbent regime and dissolution of the DLP by mobilizing all available means.

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Kwangju democratization movement on 18 May, Chondaehyop plans to hold a "ceremony for the inauguration of its 4th-term leadership" at Chonnam University and to expose and denounce the nature of the United States as the "behind-the-scenes manipulator of the Kwangju massacre and mid-wife for the founding of the DLP." By doing so, Chondaehyop will link the anti-LDP struggle with the anti-U.S. struggle in a natural manner.

At the same time, Chondaehyop will enhance the struggle to promote national reunification, which was carried out in such a limited manner as to demand merely "independent exchanges" until last year, into the struggle for the realization of "full-scale openness and free travel." It also decided to have 1,000 university departments across the country request en masse permission to visit the North during the period from 19 April to 10 June in order to ensure the participation and support from the student masses.

Meanwhile, during the recent general meeting, difference in views and opinions between the National Liberation [NL] faction and the Popular Democratic [PD] faction—the two leading organizations in the student

movement—was revealed over the method for attaining solidarity between workers and students, over evaluation of the building of a legal political party, and over the relations between opposition parties within the political system and the "national alliance for crushing the DLP's maneuvers for one-party dictatorship and for obtaining the masses' basic rights" which will be formed on 24 April with the participation of Chondaehyop, the National Federation of Workers' Trade Unions, the National Democratic Alliance and the National Teachers' Trade Union.

The PD faction put forward a proposal, which is not consistent with the "general line" prepared by Chondaehyop's Central Committee led by the NL faction. In this proposal, the PD faction demanded that during the first half of the year, the struggle should be concentrated on smashing repression of labor movement with 1 May day as a start, and that an "alliance of student committees for smashing the collaboration of fascists and for winning the masses' democratic rights" should be formed as a subordinate organization of the Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils.

The PD faction expressed full support for the formation of a "progressive masses' political party" stressing that the formation is "inevitable for making masses the political forces." However, the NL faction said that "the significance of the PD faction's demand may be admitted but there is the possibility that such assertions can be dragged into the theory on conservatism and progressivism," thus expressing disagreement.

The NL faction held that opposition parties within the existing political system including the Party for Peace and Democracy should be included in the "people's alliance." But the PD faction insists that the NL faction's opinion should be thoroughly rejected.

Thus, Chondaehyop's general meeting came to a vote for the first time in its history. In this voting, "the plan of the Central Committee" was passed with 87 approval ballots out of 111.

Song Kap-sok was the only candidate for Chondaehyop's chairman. However, Chondaehyop acheived his election by slight of hand, which was its former practice for achieving internal democracy and strengthening its mass nature, and came to a vote. In this voting, Song was elected as chairman with 92 approval ballots, 10 negative votes and 1 invalid vote out of 103 possible vote.

Concerning the decisions made by means of voting, Kim Chae-ung, 23-year old, who is president of the General Student Association of Hanyang University and Chondaehyop's spokesman, stated that "Chondaehyop will decide every issue in the future in an open manner and based on the democratic principle, and even the views of the minority will be put to discussion in the end." His remarks appeared to reflect Chondaehyop's consciousness of people's criticism of autocracy by a small number of Chondaehyop's leadership.

Chondaehyop's 4th-term Executive Committee has declared a "full-scale war" against the DLP. However, how strong the support the students give to Chondaehyop's large-scale offensive in April and May will be the key to the direction of the student movement in the nineties.

Expert Warns Korea, Japan Next Drug Targets

SK0305023290 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 3 May 90 p 2

[Excerpt] An international drug expert yesterday warned that both Korea and Japan are highly vulnerable to cocaine addiction.

The expert, who refused to be identified for security reasons, said that as the North American market became glutted with cocaine in the early to mid-1980's, Latin American traffickers are turning their attention to the Asia-Pacific region, notably Japan and Korea which enjoy higher living standards as compared to other regional countries.

The drug specialist, who attended the first world ministerial summit to reduce demand for drugs and to combat the cocaine threat that was held in London last month, went on to say that Korea should be alerted against a growing number of foreign tourists some of whom are suspected of serving as a communications link with drug traffickers here and abroad.

"We have mounting evidence to prove that the cocaine cartels are sending young Colombian women to Japan to work as prostitutes and to learn Japanese so that they can serve as a communications link with drug-running Yakuza mobsters," he said.

"Overall, the number of Colombian nationals now in Japan on tourist visas has jumped dramatically in the last two years," he said, strongly hinting that Korea is emerging as their next target. [passage omitted]

Burma

Rulers Launch 'Virulent Attacks' on Opposition

BK0105041590 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 1 May 90 p 3

[Text] Burma's military rulers, afraid the opposition might win multi-party elections next month, have launched virulent attacks in the state-run press to discredit its leadership, Western diplomats said yesterday. The diplomats, based in Rangoon, told REUTERS in Bangkok the Army two weeks ago released at least eight officials of the major opposition grouping, the National League for Democracy (NLD), in a bid to split the party. "As you see the regime stepping up its covert efforts to hinder and destroy the unity of the NLD and other parties, one must come to the conclusion that the regime is very worried about the strength of these parties," one diplomat said.

The Army, which has ruled Burma directly since crushing a nationwide uprising 18 months ago, is staging polls on May 27 which diplomats say will be a farce because dissident leaders have been barred and most of their supporters silenced. Diplomats said the release of NLD lawyer Myint Myint Khin, arrested during a crackdown on the party last July which also netted secretary Aung San Suu Kyi and chairman Tin U, had highlighted differences in the party in the run-up to the polls. They said Myint Myint Khin, a former leftist and NLD executive committee member, had since her release criticised the current party leadership. Diplomats said the ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC) had resumed its direct attacks on the NLD and other opposition parties to boost the election chances of its own favoured National Unity Party (NUP).

Commission Refuses Changes to Ballot Cards

BK0205143490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] The Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections of the Union of Myanmar [Burma] has issued Announcement No. 393, dated 2 May 1990—the 9th day of the waxing moon of Kason, 1352 Myanmar era. The announcement reads:

Subject: Refusal to comply with requests for changes to or deletions of data on ballot cards.

1. Ballot cards have already been printed for the candidates who are competing in the multiparty democratic general elections on 27 May 1990—independents as well as those representing political parties with the recommendation of the parties concerned. The ballot cards bear the name of the candidate; the name of the political party being represented or, in the case of an independent, his or her status; and the election symbol representing that candidate.

2. Today, some political parties have been informing this commission that some of their candidates have already been dismissed from the parties and therefore have nothing to do with them. Since ballot cards have already been printed and there is no time to make any changes, the printed candidature list on the ballot cards stands confirmed and no changes will be accommodated.

By the authority vested in me.
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary, Commission for Multiparty Democratic General Elections

Phone Myint Leads Cultural Delegation to Yunnan

BK0205144990 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] An eight-member Myanmar [Burmese] cultural delegation led by Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister of home and religious affairs and information and culture, left by air for Yunnan Province of the People's Republic of China at 1500 today.

The Myanmar delegation was seen off at Yangon [Rangoon] airport by members of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] Lt. Gen. Tin Tun, minister of transport and communications and labor and social welfare; Lt. Gen. Sein Aung, minister of industry-1 and industry-2; Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the SLORC; and Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt, commander of the Yangon Military Command. Brigadier General Myo Thant, director of signals of the Ministry of Defense; Lieutenant Colonel Than Nyunt of the Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs; Lt. Col. Tin Htoo of the Ministry of Information and Culture; U Ko, director general of the Office of the Cabinet; heads of departments under ministries concerned; Mr. Cheng Ruisheng, PRC ambassador to Myanmar; and responsible officials were also on hand.

Minister Lt. Gen. Phone Myint was accompanied by Dr. Ye Htut, director general of the Institute of Culture; U Sein Win, head of the office of the Ministry of Information; U Than Yi and U Thant Tin, deputy directors of the Fine Arts Department; U Soe Tint, principal of the Yangon Arts and Sculpture School; U Tun Zaw, director of the Fine Arts Department, who also serves as the delegation secretary; and Major Myint Tun, personal aide to the minister.

Wa Army Commander Views Situation in Wa Region

BK3004120790 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Wa State in Burmese 1237 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Speech by the commander in chief of the United Wa State Army, at the ceremony to mark the first anniversary of the Wa State United Army on 17 April; place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed guests, friends, comrades, and parents, brothers, and sisters:

This ceremony being held on 17 April 1990 is to commemorate the first anniversary of the United Wa State

Army [UWSA]. It is an auspicious day that marks the success of the UWSA in eliminating the erroneous leadership by a small group of BCP [Burma Communist Party] people. On behalf of the Central Committee of the United Wa State Party [Wa Ne Thwe Si Nyi-nyut-ye Party], all commanders and combatants of the UWSA, and all nationalities in the Wa state, let me extend my warmest welcome and at the same time my humble and heartfelt salute to all the esteemed guests and friends.

With the aim of strengthening the base areas in the Wa state, safeguarding the fruits of the revolution of the Wa people, and liberating the people of the Wa state from the difficulties and dangers of war, the treasured children of different nationalities in the Wa state headed by (Cao Nyi Lai) and (Cao Yit Khai) hoisted high the revolutionary banner and toppled the erroneous leadership provided by a small group of BCP people. Next, we were able to reorganize the UWSA—a national army with a long-standing history in the Wa state.

Glancing back at history, we see ourselves passing through a very tortuous and difficult phase. Over 20 years ago, in order to overcome the oppression by the feudal agrarian system and to bring an end to the backwardness [words indistinct] in the Wa state, the treasured children of the people of all nationalities in the Wa state took up arms to wage guerrilla warfare [words indistinct]. As a result, guerrilla units emerged one after the other. Hence, the [names indistinct] guerrilla units were formed.

During the battles, the guerrilla units mutually extended help to each other and gradually developed into a strong and single combat force. In order to conduct the revolution in the Wa state through to the end, we accepted the BCP leadership and joined the national liberation movement with a global character. At the same time, we were able to unite with the [words indistinct] forces under the BCP leadership. Our forces gradually developed in the course of the struggle. Since the process of [words indistinct] deepened, we were able to team up with the [name indistinct] forces. In addition, we were also able to unite with the guerrilla units of [words indistinct].

Through a courageous struggle against the feudal agrarian system in the Wa state, we brought an end to the [words indistinct] administrative system and were able to build our power in the base areas. Since the later part of 1973, a small group of BCP people, who were providing an erroneous leadership, ignored the changing conditions of the struggle at home and abroad, and continued to grasp the line of seizing power through the armed struggle. The war situation plunged the people into a sea of troubles, and therefore the revolution stalled without any advancement.

To strengthen the fruits of revolution and with a revolutionary spirit, the UWSA, which was established mainly with the guerrilla units in the Wa state, toppled the erroneous BCP leadership. The reorganization of the UWSA also (?brought in) the WNA [Wa National Army] headed by [two names indistinct]. What history has proved is that the UWSA was conceived, developed, and strengthened during the struggle and that it evolved during a very tortuous and difficult period. In the past year, the UWSA has been faithful to its political line of grasping peace without fail while opposing war, establishing unity without fail while opposing division, and attaining democracy without fail while opposing the dictatorship.

Since the official talks with the Myanmar [Burmese] Government Army on (?2) August last year, we were able to implement a cease-fire in the (?Wa state), and after creating conditions for peace, we have been able to enter the first phase of economic development in the Wa state. In order to establish peace on a long-term basis, we unanimously decided to form the Union of Myanmar Democratic Front for Peace [Pyidaungsu Myanmar Naing-ngan-daw Nyein-chan-ye Democracy Tat-u] together with the Kokang National Democratic Allied Army of Myanmar [Kokang Myanmar-pyi Amyotha Democracy Mahameik Tatmadaw], the Eastern Shan State Allied Army [Shan-pyi Ashay-paing Mahameik Tatmadaw], and the Kachin State [words indistinct] Army.

Today, our friends are everywhere, and our army is also growing stronger with time. One year after our victory, to strengthen our base area, we were able to [words indistinct] attack on the [words indistinct]. At the same time, we were able to gradually destroy the [words indistinct] in the central region along the Thai-Myanmar border. We were able to launch attacks and regain many regions that we had previously lost and were also able to cut the key route of [words indistinct]. One year since our victory, [passage indistinct] and were able to decisively smash the evil counterrevolutionary scheme. [passage indistinct]

Therefore, our party, Army, and people are [words indistinct]. Comprehensively speaking, the past year saw the UWSA traveling upstream against strong political, military, and economic currents. However, despite the many difficulties [words indistinct], we have grown and have become more determined. In particular, we have been mutually extending cooperation with the government, and extensive work has started in the construction of roads, the building of schools and dispensaries in the special regions, the establishment of a stable life for the people, and the achievement of all-around economic development. For the economic prosperity of the Wa state and for the welfare of the people in the Wa state, the UWSA will extend warmer relations and unite even more closely with the people of all nationalities in the Wa state to [words indistinct]. We are firm in our decision to make a greater contribution to establish and safeguard peace. [sentence indistinct]

In conclusion, I would like to extend my wishes for the personal well-being of all the esteemed guests, friends, comrades, and kindred people who have come to the ceremony to mark the first anniversary of the UWSA.

Cambodia

Nguyen Van Linh's 'Deceiving Statement' Viewed

BK0305045590 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 2 May 90

[Unattributed article: "The Hanoi Leadership Can Never Cover Up the Reality That Vietnamese Troops Continue To Invade and Occupy Cambodia"]

[Text] At the 30 April meeting to mark the 15th anniversary of the occupation of south Vietnam, Hanoi leader Nguyen Van Linh made the remark, aimed at fooling the international community again, that Vietnamese aggressor forces have been completely withdrawn from Cambodia and that the world should resume aid to Vietnam. The Vietnamese leader's shameless statement was very ironic in the eyes of Asian and international diplomats and observers. On 30 April 15 years ago, the world clearly saw through the perfidious maneuvers conducted by the Hanoi authorities in violating the 1973 Paris accord on settling Vietnam's war. Now, the Hanoi leadership has used the same day to launch another deceiving propaganda campaign on the withdrawal of its troops from Cambodia.

Nguyen Van Linh, Nguyen Co Thach, and other Vietnamese leaders will never be able to cover up the reality that hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese troops continue to invade and occupy Cambodia, even though the Vietnamese troops are disguised as puppet soldiers. The Cambodian people and resistance forces have clearly seen with their own eyes the presence of the Vietnamese aggressor forces. They have accurately attacked them and captured them one after another. International opinion in the West and East and international intelligence sources have seen that the Vietnamese troops continue to confront the Cambodian resistance forces.

Vietnam's actions in the past and Nguyen Van Linh's deceiving statement once again show the insincere and unchanged fundamental official policy of the Hanoi aggressor authorities. Nguyen Van Linh's deception is clear evidence that the Hanoi leadership will never release Cambodia from its Indochinese federation grip. It continues to occupy Cambodia with hundreds of thousands of its troops through the puppet trademark. This is the reason for the Vietnamese bandits' objection to a UN peacekeeping force in Cambodia and a UN administration to control and run Cambodia in the transitional period. The more intense their deception, the more disgraceful they are. They will continue to face defeat until they shamefully, disgracefully, and completely bog themselves down in a quagmire.

Laos' Phoumi Vongvichit Thanks Heng Samrin

BK0205055490 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the State of Cambodia's Council of State, recently received a letter of thanks from Comrade Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The message reads:

I would like to profoundly thank you for your birthday greetings on my 81st birthday. I am confident that the time-honored fraternal relations of friendship and solidarity and cooperation between Laos and Cambodia will further develop and consolidate.

Phnom Penh Reports 22-28 Apr Battle Results

BK0305080190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] During the week of 22-28 April, remnants of the three reactionary groups continued to fire hundreds of shells of all types of artillery on border areas in western Cambodia. During the same period, our Armed Forces, with their utmost vigilance, swept and inflicted repeated heavy setbacks on the enemies. We put out of action 92 enemy soldiers, including 58 killed, 3 captured, and 31 surrendered; we seized 28 guns, 3 field radios, 40 mines, some TNT plastic explosive, and a significant quantity of ammunition.

Laos

Phoumi Vongvichit Chairs Front Conference

BK0305094990 Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 3 (KPL)—The annual conference of the Lao Front for National Construction chapters in six southern provinces was held in Saravane Province from April 30 to May 2 with the participation of 170 delegates representing people of all strata in Saravane, Sekong, Attopeua, Champassak, Savannakhet, and Khammouane Provinces.

The conference was chaired by Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, Politburo member of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], acting-president of the republic, and president of the Lao Front for National Construction Central Committee.

The conference reviewed the front's activities in the six southern provinces during the past one year and worked out an action plan for 1990 aimed at uniting the people of all strata for the common efforts in the national defence and construction, increasing the spirit of patriotism and democracy for the strengthening of the unity between the party, state, front and people of all ethnic groups.

Leaders Greet Polish Officials on National Day

BK0305095490 Vientiane KPL in English 0854 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 3 (KPL)—H.E. [His Excellency] Phoumi Vongvichit, acting president, and H.E. Kaysone Phomvihan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the

Lao People's Democratic Republic, on May 2 sent separate telegrams of greetings to President Wojciech Jaruzelski and H.E. Tadeusz Mazowiecki, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Poland respectively.

The telegrams noted that on the occasion of the national day of the Republic of Poland (May 3rd), the Lao Government and people and their own behalf [as received] expressed best wishes to the two Polish leaders, Polish Government and people.

The two Lao leaders were also convinced that the time honoured good relations and cooperation between Laos and Poland be developed in the interest of the two peoples, for peace, trust and progress in the world.

Mekong Committee Delegation Returns From SRV

BK0205095490 Vientiane KPL in English 0911 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 2 (KPL)—A delegation of the National Mekong Committee, led by its president, Kithong Vongsai, who is also deputy minister of the Foreign Economic Relations and Trade, on April 29, returned home from Vietnam after having attended the 31st session of the International Interim Mekong Committee.

The session studied and adopted several issues pertaining to development of Laos, including the potentials in the use of water sources, particularly in irrigation and hydro-power stations, the project for protection of wild life, especially the extinct types. Also studied were the preparatory organizational and legal study and others.

At the conference, the following countries decided to help the activities of the International Interim Mekong Committee.

—The Federal Republic of Germany granted U.S. [$]1.4 million to the barge service in Laos;
—Sweden agreed to give an annual aid of U.S. [$]2.5 million to the various projects starting from 1991;
—Finland gave U.S. [$]1.9 million to the making of the map of the river;
—Japan agreed to help the work in the assessment of forest and tree planting work;
—Australia will give U.S [$]20 million with in the next 4 years;
—The EEC will give U.S [$]660,000 to the work in the preparatory organizational and legal study.

The session also discussed the matter concerning the holding of the 3d session of the International Interim Mekong Committee to be held next in 1991 in Laos.

Economic Agreement Signed With PRC Provinces

BK0305095390 Vientiane KPL in English 0901 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 3 (KPL)—An agreement on economic cooperation between Vientiane Prefecture and Guangdong Province of the People's Republic of China was signed during the recent visit to Yunnan and Guangdong Provinces of the People's Republic of China by the delegation of the party committee of Vientiane Prefecture led by Mr. Sisavat Keobounphan, Politburo member and secretary of the LPRP CC [Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee], secretary of the party committee and mayor of Vientiane Prefecture.

According to the agreement, the two sides will cooperate in agricultural production, industry and trade. Guangdong Province will receive Lao personnel for field study and for short-term training course which will be held from 1990.

Cooperation Accord Signed With Soviet Writers

BK0305100090 Vientiane KPL in English 0856 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Vientiane, May 3 (KPL)—An agreement on cooperation and exchange of cultural work was signed here on April 30 by Mr. Souvanthon Bouphanouvong, head of the organizational committee of the Association of the Lao Writers, and Mr. Skavorezov, secretary of the Federation of the Writers of the USSR.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Mr. Bounteng Vongsai, deputy minister of information and culture.

According to the agreement, it was agreed that the sides will promote cooperation and exchange experiences on writing, thus aiming at development of the organizational and professional work of the Association of Lao Writers.

Philippines

Ramos Favors Bases' Retention Until 1998

HK0305020690 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos favored the continued stay of U.S. military facilities in the country until 1998. Ramos expressed his personal view on the controversial bases issue during an open forum following his speech to political and civil leaders in Dagupan City. He said the country cannot afford to let go of the bases immediately because of its economic and political repercussions.

Senator Wants Bases Termination Notice Issued

HK0305093190 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Senator Wigberto Tanada has proposed to issue a notice of termination to the United States on 8 May instead of holding the bases exploratory talks. He told Liberty in Action that instead of extending the military bases agreement, both countries should discuss the creation of a treaty of friendship and cooperation. He

further said that the United States should uphold our Constitution with regards to the Philippines' nuclear-free policy.

[Begin Tanada recording] The Senate does not have a representative in the upcoming exploratory talks. I believe that if it cannot be helped, and the talks will have to take place, the dollars and cents issue should not be the main item on the agenda. First, they have to discuss if the U.S. is upholding our constitution with regards to the nuclear weapons-free policy. [end recording]

Senator Tanada also said that President Aquino at the moment cannot state her stand on the U.S. military bases issue because some elements might destabilize her administration. He added that she probably is aware that the military bases are not contributing positively to the country but she is not disclosing her options yet.

[Begin Tanada recording] I think she cannot say it. She sees that the retention of the military bases does not contribute to the good of the entire country. If she is of this opinion, why can she not tell the people that it would not be good for the bases to remain?

I also think she cannot bring it in the open because she fears that once she takes a public stand on the matter, her administration might be overthrown. [end recording]

Labor Movement Plans To Protest Bases Talks

HK0305050190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 3 May 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Booma Cruz, with reports from Johanna Son, Manny Mogato and R. Anda]

[Text] The Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement] yesterday announced a nationwide work stoppage on May 14 to protest the start of the exploratory talks on the Philippine-U.S. Military Bases Agreement and to condemn the "brutal" dispersal of the Labor Day rallies in Angeles, Tacloban and Cebu. Nick Elman, KMU spokesman, said the work stoppage would be the culmination of a series of protest actions against the bases starting next week. KMU, which claims of membership of 700,000 workers, said the stoppage would paralyze the operations of many companies.

Senate Majority Leader Teofisto Guingona, meanwhile, proposed that the Philippine and U.S. governments "spin off" from the bases talks and create a separate panel to evaluate Washington's record on economic assistance. It is time to review the entire spectrum of Philippine-American relations with the expiration of the 1947 bases agreement, he said.

In Dagupan City, Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos suggested a five- to eight-year gradual phaseout of the bass to coincide with the centennial observance of the country's independence from Spain. During an open forum at the annual sea festival of Pangasinan held in Dagupan last Monday, Ramos said the bases' pullout "cannot logically be done in a short time."

He also chided anti-bases proponents for accusing those in favor of the continued stay of the American facilities here as "tuta" or "puppets of foreign interests." "I think anybody who is saying that is a misdirected nationalist," Ramos said. He explained that the national interest means maintaining friendly relations with all countries, particularly those which have "shown support, concern and material assistance for Philippine democracy."

Anti-bases rallies highlighted the observance of Labor Day last Tuesday and their violent dispersal was condemned by the KMU, particularly in Angeles City where about 20 workers were injured. "If (Tuesday's) violence perpetrated by its own forces is this government's sample of peace and democracy, then I'm afraid that we are going to be a peaceful and democratic nation of mute, deaf, unthinking, unfeeling and deadened people who are petrified to resist this government's perverted vision of peace and democracy," said KMU chairman Crispin Beltran.

The immediate dismantling of the U.S. bases was one of KMU's major demand, along with a P23 wage increase, during its Labor Day observance at the Luneta.

On the coming bases' exploratory talks, Guingona said, "Everything should be reviewed, the social, cultural and economic aspects in the (U.S.) shortchanging."

He gave no figures on economic assistance but said the discussion could touch on garment quotas, U.S. Public Law [PL] 480 and other items apart from bases-related assistance.

Also known as the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954, PL 480 provides for concessional sales of U.S. agricultural commodities and food donations for famine relief, combatting malnutrition and promoting economic development. If the Philippines avails of the law's soft loan component, it is given 30 years to pay at a low interest rate of 3% annually.

But PL 480 has "strings attached" which officials prefer to describe as "self-help measures." These include, among others, the active role of the private sector in shipping the commodity and sometimes even the lifting of price controls.

The Department of Agriculture is in favor of utilizing PL 480 because its alternative is to buy commodities in cash from other countries. In the case of rice, the Philippines could not get the 200,000-metric ton importation from the U.S. and was, thus, forced to buy the cereal from Indonesia in cash.

Aquino To 'Maximize' Use of Emergency Powers

HK0205112790 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 1100 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] President Aquino is expected to maximize the use of her emergency powers within the next remaining weeks of its effectivity. Tanny Rodriguez reports.

[Begin recording] This was learned from Presidential Spokesman Adolfo Azcuna who said: Between now until

May 15th, the government will take over business establishments which did not, from their end, follow the earlier directives of the chief executive, among which are business establishments falling under the so-called public interests. The emergency powers of the president or Republic Act Number 6826 is due to expire on June 8. [end recording]

Aquino Clarifies Issue of Emergency Powers

HK0305101390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 3 May 90

[Italicized portion in English]

[Text] President Aquino has today issued a clarification on the issue of her request for extension of emergency powers. Here is her statement as read by Press Secretary Tomas Gomez III:

[Begin recording] *After the matter was discussed at the Cabinet meeting yesterday, the president decided: one, to do all she can within the existing powers under RA [Republic Act] 6826 in the time left under that law to update the objective of optimizing our efforts in the task of reconstructing the economy during the period of emergency; and two, to take stock of the situation by mid-May or shortly thereafter to see if the situation by then would still call for emergency powers after the last of those given under the present law, in which case the president would then ask congress for a new law providing for such powers. The Cabinet fully supports this position and the course of action the president will take.*

The president will determine, after assessing the national situation around May 15, whether or not to seek emergency powers after June 8, as well as to decide the extent or duration of such powers. The president will soon be consulting the leadership of both chambers of congress on this matter. She had not abused implementing the powers; rather she used them precisely to restore normalcy, in line with the policy of economic reconstruction ordained by the law during these powers.

The president had just issued a national emergency memorandum order on the subject of directing the implementation of energy-saving measures. [end recording]

Senators Reject Aquino's Request for Powers

HK0305032890 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 3 May 90 pp 1, 8

[By staff writer Butch Fernandez, with a report from D.J. Sta. Ana]

[Text] Several senators rejected yesterday President Aquino's plan to request for broader powers, which could include lawmaking, saying it would be tantamount to a return to the one-man rule practiced by her predecessor.

"We cannot possibly abdicate our legislative prerogatives," Senate President Jovito Salonga said. Senators Ernesto Herrera, Aquilino Pimentel Jr, Teofisto Guingona Jr and Juan Ponce Enrile, echoed Salonga's sentiments, adding that an extension and expansion of Mrs Aquino's emergency powers would not be good for Congress and the entire country.

Several congressmen had earlier objected to the President's plan to seek broader powers and an extension of the state of emergency. The three senators were reacting to a statement by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon that the executive branch was determined to ask Congress for broader powers, possibly including the power to legislate.

Drilon, head of the Cabinet Cluster E on security and political matters, said when asked if Mrs Aquino would seek the power to legislate: "All options are open... The President can be delegated legislative powers as it is up to Congress to delegate."

Drilon's Cabinet cluster had earlier recommended that Mrs Aquino reexamine her position regarding the emergency powers, citing the improved security situation. It suggested that Mrs Aquino keep her options open while it reassesses the situation in the next two to three weeks. After that period, the Cabinet body will make its final recommendation on whether or not the state of emergency should be extended beyond June 8. Still, the final decision rests with Mrs Aquino, Drilon had said.

Yesterday, the Cabinet took up the matter of emergency powers and agreed that Mrs Aquino should "make full use" of her emergency powers until May 15, when the two-week period of assessment required by Drilon's Cabinet cluster ends, Presidential spokesman Adolfo Azcuna said. Malacanang expects to be able to come up with a list of additional powers to ask from Congress by next week, he said.

Azcuna said the executive branch will determine which powers granted to it under Republic Act 6826 can be fully used. One power could be the government takeover of privately owned public utilities affecting public interest if the government finds these firms are not helping in the government's economic reconstruction efforts, Azcuna said.

Senator Herrera, reacting to Drilon's statement, said it was "impossible to grant Mrs Aquino lawmaking powers. That would be a throwback to the martial law years," he said.

"'Hindi pwede' yan (that cannot be)," said his colleague, Pimentel. "We cannot abdicate our constitutional duty (because) it would not be good for the country or Congress," Pimentel said. Pimentel told the GLOBE that both the Senate and the House of Representatives ran only delegate rule-making powers to the President, subject to legislative guidelines, "but not lawmaking powers."

The senators cited "constitutional inhibitions" against such usurpation of powers specifically vested on each

branch of government. Herrera said the power to legislate rests with the two chambers of Congress. "No powers or (amending) laws can change that," he said.

Allowing the executive to encroach on the functions of the legislature and make its own laws, Herrera added, is "possible only under a revolutionary government" as in the early years of the Aquino presidency.

Guingona said he forsees a new round of fierce floor debates in both chambers over the controversial Palace proposal. But he opted to withhold further comment, saying: "We will wait for the Guesthouse to submit its formal recommendations to the Senate."

For his part, Enrile said Malacanang was showing its "inutility and weakness" in asking for broader emergency powers based on what he described as "flimsy justifications."

Enrile observed that Mrs Aquino had not asked to be given such extra powers when the devastating effects of the failed December coup was still at its peak and she had limited authority to deal with it. But now that the situation has become normal, Enrile said, Mrs Aquino wants to broaden her powers.

"If I were the President, I would not need emergency powers to resolve the problems of the nation," Enrile, the martial law administrators of the Marcos regime, said. He did not elaborate.

Columnist Rejects Another Term for Aquino

HK0205105790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 2 May 90 pp 4, 5

["On the Other Hand" column by Antonio C. Abaya: "Cory in 1992"]

[Text] Will Cory run for re-election in 1992? For a while, that question had been answered to most everyone's satisfaction. No, she had said for the umpteenth time, she was just a transition president. She would not serve beyond the present term. When it ends in 1992, she will retire, open a restaurant (Cory's Curry was my unsolicited advice), write her memoirs and/or join an NGO [non-governmental organization].

But that matter seems to be up in the air again. An organization of town and city mayors, claiming to represent 1,500 municipalities nationwide, has organized a campaign to garner four million signatures to convince President Aquino to seek a second term.

Obviously, there are many individuals who want her to stay in power, for their own private reasons, among them Peping Cojuangco, Ding Tanjuatco, Eldon Cruz, Butz Aquino, Joker Arroyo, Big Mac, and their respective retinues. It is therefore not surprising that the sip-seps [boot lickers] in the mayors' organization reportedly mostly LDPs [Laban ng Demorratkong Pilipino-Struggle of Philippine Democrats]—or Labis ang Dilihensya ng mga Pusang-ina [those sons of a bitch have too much bribe-paying business]—are making disgusting slurping noises that could be heard even if all the toilets in Metro Manila were flushed simultaneously.

I am convinced that Cory Aquino herself does not want to run for another term. It is the sip-seps and the hangers-on in her official and personal families who are pressing her to stay on. Their happiness obviously depends on her staying in power.

The questions that should be asked apropos 1992 should be: Can Cory Aquino stand six more years of the bitching, bellyaching, quarerelsome, ungovernable Filipinos? And can the Filipinos stand six more years of Cory Aquino?

In my opinion, the answer to both questions is an emphatic NO! Cory has had it with the ungovernable Filipinos. And it with Cory Aquino.

Her own children, the ones she holds dearest in her life, are literally counting the days she has left in Malacanang, looking forward eagerly to the day when she and they are finally rid of the endless criticism, the bitching and the carping, the squabbling and the bickering, the hooting and the hissing. In her private moments, she must be screaming what Mussolini said of his Italians, that it is useless trying to govern the Filipinos.

If she is disappointed with the Filipinos, the Filipinos are also disappointed with her. Many of those who continue to support her up to now, including this writer, do so only because those who seek to overthrow her—Honasan and his Marcos allies and trapo [cleaning rag] backers—are considered morally despicable and politically unacceptable.

But this support is not open-ended, nor is it unconditional. It can be withdrawn earlier if, in the impending crisis, she and her inner circle of lightweight mediocrities prove inadequate to the situation and a military-civilian council with no connection to Gringo, has to step in to save the Republic.

This attitude is quite prevalent among the elite and the business community. I would hazard that it is also widely held among the loyal military and among the conservative elements of the Church, the radical elements having abandoned her long ago. My guess is that Cardinal Sin's support for Cory is also good up to June 1992 only.

What this means is that support for Cory has changed from personal to institutional, which is a healthy development indicating a growing maturity in our political processes.

When she led the crusade against Marcos in 1985-86, people supported Cory Aquino because she was the widow of the beloved Ninoy, the exact opposite of the hated Marcos, He the venal, scheming, lying, cheating, greedy, grabbing, amoral Machiavelli. She the pure-hearted, honest, selfless, sincere, heaven-sent Mother Teresa. Filipinos rallied behind Cory, the person, never mind if she was qualified or not for the presidency.

In 1990, support for Cory is really support for the office of the presidency and the constitutional system. Even though she rose to power through an extra-constitutional process, she is seen to represent duly constituted authority, which must be respected, warts and all, and allowed to run its course to 1992. Otherwise, what will become of us? A banana-Q republic, impaled on the stick of warlordism.

As for the Americans, they have wisely decided to continue supporting Cory, despite the machinations of Ray Cline and the $80,000-a-month Washington lobby of Honasan's trapos. In return, the Aquino government is sending signals that Cory's famous options are no longer open and that the coming talks are exploratory towards a new treaty for a 5-to-10 year phaseout of the bases. Cory realizes that without American economic support, her Government would not last two months.

Whether US support will extend beyond 1992 remains to be seen. I am inclined to believe that US support for Cory—like the support of the elite, the middle class, the business community, the loyal military and the Church—expires in June 1992, whether or not the Americans get their bases. This is because the neanderthal Americans are apparently convinced that she does not have what it takes to lead this country from endless crises to prosperity and stability. A beggar country is a liability for everyone.

Earlier in this piece, I wrote about an impending crisis. This crisis is actually upon us already. The prolonged drought and energy shortage mean that the economy will most likely contract this year. The drought will cause food shortages, requiring more imports. The daily power failures will cause a serious drop in overall production, a shortfall in exports, and a sharp decline in investments. Does it take much guesswork to conclude that the value of the peso will decline significantly this year?

As the peso drops in value, oil imports will drain the resources of the government as it subsidizes rather than raises the consumer price of petro-products to avoid civil unrest. the projected budget deficit for 1990 has been raised from P [pesos] 13 billion to P17.5 billion to P2 billion [figures as published].

In this bleak scenario, can Cory Aquino—or anyone else, for that matter—cope? Only a strong leader can keep this country intact through the crisis. President Aquino should accept her limitations. I do not mean that she should resign now. I mean that she should, at most, serve out her term to 1992 and retire. If her sycophants manage to convince her to run again in 1992, she will most likely be over-thrown...or humiliated.

Columnist Finds Aquino's Rhetoric 'Boring'

HK0205103390 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 2 May 90 p 5

["The Presidency" column by Malou Mangahas: "Speaking But Not Saying"]

[Text] The question was simple, she could have answered simply yes, or no.

But the President chose to be circuitous and vague, when a reporter asked her on Monday if indeed she met last week with Taiwanese Economic Minister Chen Lu-an.

It was obviously not a case of the President not understanding the question, which was tersely and clearly phrased. Perhaps she did not, or could not answer just yes or no, for either way, she would have had to lie. In the first place, the contested meeting had already pricked the sensitivities of Chinese embassy officials, who spotted a possible breach of the One-China policy, by the President herself.

The reporter had hoped that the President would set the record straight. Instead, she was served this reply: "Yes, for the sake of setting the record straight, let me remind all of you that when I was in Beijing in 1988, what we agreed upon was that there would be trade and investment talks, and certainly, we would be encouraging investment coming from Taiwan, and certainly, this was agreed to by officials in Beijing."

"So," the President added, "what I would like to state here is that we strongly adhere to the One-China policy."

For another time, the reporter pressed her luck. Did the president mean that she did meet with the Taiwanese official? "In one moment of apparent unease, the President replied; "Well, I do not want to answer that. All I want to say is that we deal with Taiwan purely on trade and business matters."

Given statements like this from the President, reporters on the beat, understandably, have to churn out stories based on their own, if variant, interpretations of what the President wanted to say, or tried so hard to avoid saying. Hence, reports that the President, in so many words, confirmed the meeting, despite a denial issued earlier by her press office.

If she was ambiguous on this subject, the President was hardly convincing when she spoke on the power supply crisis, her proposal for extended and expanded emergency powers, and the bases exploratory talks.

She was told that to many quarters, the daily brownouts illustrate government's incredible lack of foresight, and also incompetence. A reporter asked why, in her four years in office, power generation projects did not take off, despite earlier repeated warnings of an impending supply shortage. The gist of the President's reply was that not only her government, but also those of other nations which are financing the projects, have to be blamed. Red tape, she said, afflicts this and the other governments, hence, the delay in the projects' start-up.

For what specific reasons does she want additional and longer emergency powers, was another question fielded. As had been repeated several times in the past week, the President said anew that she had assigned the Cabinet cluster on security and political development to study this

matter. The question was rephrased and raised a second time, with the reporter stressing on the word "specific". Yet the only detail the President added this next round was already something widely known: she said that, as Region 9 officials had noted, she would need more powers to impose price ceilings on basic commodities.

Perhaps it escaped her mind, though it is something too obvious, that half of the national emergency memorandum orders she has issued since last December imposed and extended price ceilings on rice nationwide, and on certain basic goods mainly in Metro Manila. Region 9, and the rest of the nation, had hardly benefitted from the price ceilings.

Ambiguity seems to be the singular distinction of the President's prose. Her press conferences do not project her as a leader in command, or even modestly knowledgeable of the whys and wherefores of major political questions. Longwinded, repetitive, and cluttered, her answers to reporters' queries often are. That happens when she serves extemporaneous remarks, such as during press conferences.

In complete departure, however, her equally long and multi-topic lectures (or readings) for her weekly "Magtanong sa Pangulo" [ask the President] radio-TV program, are so contrived and measured.

For instance, last weekend's edition was a corny classic. In an apparent attempt at poetry, her ghostwriter opened the seven-page into spiel the President had to read from tele-prompters with *"sa gitna ng init ng kasalukuyang tag-araw, parang malamig na tubig ng batis ang mga patuloy na magagandang pangyayari sa ating mga lalawigan..."* [Amid the summer heat, good things continue to unfold in the provinces like cool water flowing down a river]

Where she speaks extemporaneous, and where she delivers her ghostwriter's prose, two different personalities are projected for the president. In both cases, however, she sounds, to us, boring.

Official Denies Report on Foreign Investors

HK0105103390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 1 May 90

[Excerpt] Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion, Jr., firmly denied a report that some 20 foreign investors will pull out from the Dangkahan Industrial Estate in Cavite owing to widespread power failure. Concepcion added that factories for 23 companies are currently under construction while 20 other buildings have recently been completed. However, the secretary admitted that Japanese investors find the timetable for the start of operation in the industrial estate confusing. He also noted rampant manipulation of prices of rice in the provinces.

[Begin recording] [Concepcion] As you know, some 43 corporations have received permission to build factories in the Cavite export processing zone. Twenty of the 43 firms are now operating, while the remaining 23 are still building their factories. Others are waiting for the completion of their factories. Their plans to construct factories in Cavite will push through.

Last night, I met with the General Manager of Marubeni who arrived here from Tokyo and will be here for ten days. I explained to him the agreement reached with farmers on the land conversion scheme which is no longer necessary. He will return to Japan to explain the future agenda to his company. A lot of time has been lost, and the Japanese investors are at a loss on the timetable. Hopefully, the Cavite industrial estate will be built without further hitches.

[Reporter] Mr. Secretary, what about reports of the withdrawal of 20 foreign firms?

[Concepcion] No, that is not true. The president of the Cavite Export Processing Zone will send a letter to the GLOBE to deny the report. The twenty firms building factories in the zone are going through with their projects.

[Reporter] What long term solutions have been drawn up to deal with the energy crisis?

[Concepcion] Mr. Aboitiz already presented to the Cabinet last Wednesday a geothermal power program to ensure electricity supply all over the country from now until the year 2000. He also showed us the program for Luzon, including steps to be taken and domestic production required. We will meet with him because we fear a shortage of power supply in Luzon. The power generation plan he proposes will take some time to implement. A 100-megawatt gas turbine will be needed and should be ordered right now so it will be ready by next year. We are studying the plan and will make recommendations to the president. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Finance Secretary Endorses New Tax Measures

HK0105061190 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Apr 90 p 25

[By Ernesto Tolentino]

[Text] Finance Secretary Jesus P. Estanislao endorsed yesterday the approval of a tax reform package that calls for, among others, an increase in real estate taxes and imposition of a privilege tax on business. Introduction of the new tax measures was among the five-point action program Estanislao recommended to the President to correct "slippages," led by the swelling government deficit, now weighing down the economy. He said the tax reform package, prepared by the National Tax Research Center (NTRC), will make the country's "tax system more progressive, more equitable, more simple to administer and more supportive of investments."

One group of the proposed tax measures can be implemented administratively, while another group will have to pass congressional approval. Among the measures that

the President can authorize include the imposition of a surcharge on imports and an environmental fee, as well as the increases in the dividends declared by government-owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs) and government fees and charges (by at least 10 percent). The new taxes requiring congressional approval include the increased taxes on "sin" products such as cigarettes, alcoholic drink and soft-drink; imposition of ceilings on certain business deductions; two-tiered rate of tax income (25 percent for the first p [peso] 200,000 and 35 percent on the excess of P200,000); higher real estate taxes; privilege business tax; road users tax; reduction from 25 percent to 5.0 percent of the share of the insurance special fund from the premium tax on insurance companies, as well as the accrual of travel tax proceeds to the general fund.

Investments Higher in March Despite Coup Rumors

HK2904081090 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 28 Apr 90 p 25

[By Michael M. Alunan]

[Text] Undeterred by persistent rumors of another coup, investments in new companies increased by a hefty 131 percent last March compared to February while foreign investors likewise increased investments by 116 percent for the same period.

Officials of the Securities Exchange Commission (SEC) said the effects of the last coup attempt in December have been slowly reversed with investors regaining confidence in the economy.

Unlike existing firms which are forced to continue investing to recover investments and maintain operations, the volume of initial investments in new companies is one sure indicator of this renewed confidence, an SEC official said.

This type of investments hit a record high of as much as P [pesos] 1.364 billion in March, up by 131 percent from only P590.6 million in February this year, SEC records show. "This is the second highest investments recorded since November 1988 when Tan Yu and company penetrated prominently Philippine business," an SEC investments report said.

Foreign paid-up investments, on the other hand, more than doubled by 116 percent to as much as P690.3 million with Japan accounting for 81.2 percent or P554 million of the total.

As to specific foreign investments in joint-ventures, records show that this went up 5.5 times or by 449.94 percent from P89.5 million to P492.2 million. There was likewise an increase in the number of firms last March from 13.7 percent from 234 to 266 companies.

In comparison to March last year with initial inflow of P68.4 million in foreign investments, this month's total gained by a hefty 619.6 percent.

Meanwhile, the SEC noted that the wholesale and retail industry topped all industries with 310 new companies or 27.6 percent engaged in this business. This only indicates that consumer demand and the purchasing power of the public still remains strong.

The Financing, Real Estate and Business Services industry was the second choice of investors as 282 new companies or 25.1 percent of the total was formed under this business. In fact, it occupied five positions in the top 10 corporations listing.

The manufacturing industry was the third favored industry with 212 companies or 18.8 percent of the total. About 69 companies were engaged in the manufacture of textiles, wearing apparel, leather products, while 46 were into fabricated metal products, machinery and equipment.

Another significant development as to capital size is that a total of 554 companies or 49.2 percent of those registered in March fell under the P100,000 to P1 million bracket. This means that there are more and more small Filipino investors who are risking and investing amid the political uncertainties of the economy.

Sharp Differences Between Trade Unions Continue

HK0105065390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 1 May 90 p 8

[By Cora Lucas, Boots Dalisay]

[Text] As the country pays tribute to Filipino workers today, one piece of bad news stands out: sharp differences of opinion among labor groups continue to be an intractable problem with various organizations trumpeting mass support as a big advantage going on for them.

The militant Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) [1 May Movement], for instance, which claims to be the largest trade organization in the country, has charged the moderate Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (TUCP) of breaking the bonds of the organized mass movement through its efforts to disintegrate the labor groups comprising the Labor Advisory and Consultative Council (LALC). The KMU's allegations stemmed from the TUCP's press statement announcing its joint plans for the Labor Day celebration with the Federation of Free Workers (FFW) and the Lakas Manggagawa [Worker's Strength] Labor Center (LMCC), both member organizations of the LALC.

Calling the TUCP "an instrument of the repressive regime organized to sow disunity in the labor movement," KMU spokesman Nick Elman says the TUCP is further working to arrest militancy and consolidate probases groups. The TUCP explained that the joint Labor Day celebration has been designed to announce trade union demands through a "Manifesto of Unity for peace and democracy." "We would like to stress, however, that in coming together, we do not mean to break up existing labor coalitions," the TUCP said. "We want to promote the unity of all democratically-oriented trade union

organizations in the country as we want labor to help preserve our still endangered democracy by making it work for the workers and other marginalized sectors." The KMU, for its part, has put forward its ten-point demand to be presented today. Elman identified the demand as follows:

1. Scrapping of the May 14 exploratory talks and immediate dismantling of the U.S. Military Bases;
2. Scrapping of the Land Reform Program and immediate implementation of genuine land reform;
3. P23 wage adjustment and lowering of prices of commodities and government subsidy for all basic goods and services;
4. Nationalization of all strategic enterprises in all vital industries and demand for national industrialization; and
5. End to total war, militarization and repression.

Additionally, Elman says the KMU is pressing for the legislation of the ideal living wage which the KMU puts at P5,000 to P6,000.

The TUCP, on the other hand, will celebrate Labor Day with a march rally that will start at 7 a.m., to be participated in by member-organizations coming from different points in Quezon City and which will be highlighted by a program at the Araneta Coliseum at 9 a.m. A day after the march rally, the TUCP, together with the Federation of Free Workers and the Lakas Manggagawa Labor Center, will host an international conference to be participated in by foreign representatives from Central Asia, South America and Eastern Europe. The conference which will last for three days, has the title: "International Conference on Workers Solidarity for Peace and Democracy." It aims to strengthen the fraternal ties between the Philippine labor organizations and those in other countries. These activities, however, are but accents to the continuing rally of TUCP in order to achieve their demands of the Aquino government which include:

—The promotion and strengthening of workers' participation in decision-making;
—The implementation of immediate measures to protect the welfare of workers and raise their living standards through non-wage benefits;
—The promotion of greater respect for trade union and human rights;
—The creation of a workers' fund that would assist organized labor in education as well as in implementing socio-economic projects for the benefit of workers.

In order to achieve these demands, the TUCP also cooperates with the government in its pro-labor programs. It must be clarified, though, that it is not a pro-administration organization as its main concern is always and has always been the upholding of the cause of both the workers and the Filipino people and defending and consolidating democracy. In this light, the TUCP, together with the FFW and the LMLC, is calling for:

—The implementation of genuine agrarian reform based on the principle "land to the tillers";
—The selective repudiation of our foreign debts and 10 percent ceiling for foreign debt servicing; and
—The nationalization of the oil industry.

Lately, the TUCP has received unfavorable feedback from other sectors of society. To this, Mr Democrito Mendoza, TUCP President, says: "The labor sector has the welfare of our country at heart, so don't judge us by our mistakes. It is unfair if we are not commended for our achievements... I plead for understanding and fairness from other sectors of our society."

As the country celebrates Labor Day today, one thing is certain: there will be no wage increases as the matter has already been thrown by the President to the National Wages and Productivity Council. One more thing remains certain: the battle between the two largest trade unions continues.

Package Prepared for Assistance Program Funding

HK0105062190 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 29 Apr 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Rex Aguado]

[Text] A package of some P [pesos] 173-billion worth of projects has been readied by the Coordinating Council of the Philippine Assistance Program (CCPAP) and the House of Representatives for presentation to foreign donors at this year's PAP [Philippine Assistance Program] pledging session. Rep. Ramon Bagatsing Jr. (Manila), chairman of the House economic affairs sub-committee on international economic policy, told the CHRONICLE that the package comprises 4,006 projects for the country's 13 regions. The projects were proposed by 134 House members. The other members of the 194-chamber, who failed to submit project proposals might still ask for the inclusion of new projects before the PAP pledging session tentatively set for September this year.

The proposed projects are subdivided into six major categories. These are: 2,538 infrastructure projects, 60 power and energy-related undertakings, 80 on energy conservation, five export-oriented projects, 458 livelihood programs and 862 socio-economic projects. Documents prepared by Bagatsing's panel and the CCPAP headed by Roberto T. Villanueva indicated that infrastructure projects comprise nearly 64% of the proposed undertakings to be covered by this year's PAP funds. Aside from the projects proposed by congressmen, the CCPAP will also consult with the regional development councils (RDC's) and other groups before finally drawing up the 1990 PAP program.

On a regional Basis, Region IV (the Southern Tagalog provinces of Laguna, Rizal, Cavite, Batangas, Marinduque, Aurora, Quezon, Palawan, Romblon and Mindoro Oriental and Occidental) submitted the most number of

proposed projects (845 for a total cost of P3.348 billion) as suggested by the region's 22 congressmen. Region IV has a population of 7.56 million (1988 estimate), the highest among the country's 13 regions, including Metro Manila or the National Capital Region.

In terms of cost, the 12 congressmen from Region XI (Southern Mindanao covering the provinces of Davao del Sur, Oriental and del Norte, South Cotabato and Surigao del Sur) have asked for the biggest slice of the 1990 PAP funds. House members from Region XI, with a population of 4.14 million, have asked for P124.46 billion to finance the 266 proposed regional projects. The other provinces, with the corresponding number and cost of proposed projects, are:

Region I, 339 projects to cost P3.91 billion; Region VI, P3.55 billion for 422 projects; Region VIII, P3.34 billion for 160; Region XII, P3.14 billion for 266; Region III, P1.92 billion for 299; Region VII, P1.88 billion for 94; Region X, P1.48 billion for 266; Region IX, P1.23 billion for 49; Region II, P299 million for 168; and the NCR [National Capital Region], P185 million for 370 projects.

Bagatsing said that the inclusion of congressmen in the "deliberative process over PAP projects" was a departure from last year's PAP planning. Almost all of the projects to be financed by the $3.5-billion 1989 PAP funds were drawn up by either Malacanang or the National Economic Development Authority. Bagatsing said close coordination between the CC-PAP and the congressmen came after the House members demanded a bigger role in identifying PAP projects. To ensure that the projects are not entangled in red tape, Bagatsing said the House was set to file a resolution "urging the adoption of an overall framework for the availment, utilization and implementation" of the PAP.

Malacanang Welcomes Arrest of Rebel Officer

HK3004061790 Baguio City Mountain Province Broadcasting Company in English 0330 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Malacanang has welcomed the capture of renegade Army Lieutenant Colonel Marcelino Malajacan and civilian rebel troop supporter Romeo Rivera.

A statement from the palace said there will be no let up in the government hunt for rebel soldiers and their civilian supporters until the last of the rebels will be captured. The statement is optimistic that there will be more arrests in the coming days and weeks. Malacanang also lauded the military for doing excellent work and expressed confidence it will continue to do so.

Rebel Soldiers Confined in Navy Ship Prisons

HK3004042590 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 30 Apr 90 pp 1, 10

[By Fe B. Zamora]

[Text] The Navy has "disabled" three of its ships and converted them into prisons for 484 soldiers accused of trying to overthrow the government. On days when Manila is abuzz with rumors of heightened rebel activities, the Navy sprinkles the water around the prison ships with anti-personnel mines.

With detained rebel officers escaping with impunity, the Navy is not leaving anything to chance, says Rear Admiral Mariano Dumancas, Navy chief. "We expect that there will be more prisoners aboard than personnel (of the ship). We had to come up with a basic security that will prevent the prisoners from commandeering the ship," said Dumancas.

Meanwhile, 21 rebel officers, including two generals, will go on trial starting today for their alleged role in the December coup attempt. The court martial of Brigadier Generals Jose Comendador and Marcelo Blando and 19 other officers mark the first time soldiers linked to the December putsch will be arraigned. Comendador led the takeover by rebel soldiers of the Mactan air base and the Mactan International Airport while Blando is accused of heading a rebel army force that tried to reinforce mutineers at Camp Aguinaldo.

Navy mechanics have removed the two main propulsion engines from BRP Lanao del Norte, BRP Laguna and BRP Benguet after the captured rebel soldiers boarded the ships. Some 100 other rebel military officers have been taken to military camps.

Generators have been installed on the ship to provide electricity, said Dumancas. The three ships are now anchored off Sangley Point in Cavite, with ferry boats for the detainees' relatives and lawyers.

"The personnel aboard the ships need not carry firearms. They are there to provide company to the detainees," he added.

Among the detainees, 340 are Marines who assaulted Camp Aguinaldo at the height of the December coup attempt, while the rest are enlisted men from the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Logistics Command [Logcom], a unit which defected to the rebels. Logcom chief Commodore Domingo Calajate is at large.

The prison ships are guarded round-the-clock by patrol ships and fast patrol craft and the frigate BRP Bonifacio, the detention ship from where coup leader Gregorio Honasan escaped with his Navy guards in April 1988.

He has been at large since then. A P[Pesos]5 million reward has been offered for his arrest.

Dumancas said the warship has cannons which could easily blow up hostile craft within the prison ships.

Dumancas said that any attempt to rescue the detainees—320 [figure as published] of whom are Marines who joined in the assault of Camp Aguinaldo on Dec. 3—

would be done at night. As a Precaution, the Navy puts anti-personnel mines in the waters around the three ships, he said.

Military authorities have been saying remnants of the mutineers will "rescue" their detained comrades. Early this month, hooded commandoes attacked the Manila city jail and sprung retired Lt. Col. Billy Bibit, one of the suspected leaders of the December putsch.

Six Muslim Groups To Block MNLF's ICO Bid

HK0305052190 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY GLOBE in English 3 May 90 p 8

[By staff writer Pamela A. Balcena]

[Text] Muslim leaders in the South had forged an agreement last month to block the bid of the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) for full membership in the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) [ICO], a powerful pan-Islamic body.

In a resolution signed in Marawi City last April 25, leaders of six Muslim groups agreed to petition the 46-country strong OIC to defer action on the MNLF's application until its chairman, Nur Misuari, accommodates the right of all Moro organizations to vote and agree on a common Moro front to be presented before OIC officials during their meeting in Cairo next month.

The signatories to the resolution are Datu Firdausi Abbas, chairman of the executive council of the Bangsa Moro [Moro Homeland] Islamic Party (BMIP), Datu Nuruddin Lucman, chairman of the Bangsa Moro Liberation Organization; Commander Ismail Mukhtar, chairman of the Ranso Revolutionary Council of the MNLF-Reformist Group; Hadji Limpasan Idjirani, president of the Muslim Democratic Party; Ustadz Majid Mutillan, president of the Ompia Party and Commander Tony Falcon, secretary general of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

According to Macapanton Abbas, chairman of the BMIP and brother of Firdausi, the signatories also resolved to send an all-Moro contingent to the OIC meeting to personally air their opposition to Misuari's bid to wrangle full membership status for the MNLF in the OIC.

The Muslim leaders warned OIC officials against recognizing and accommodating an MNLF headed by Misuari, saying it will only "give rise to an independent Bangsa Moro state and will lead to the establishment of a dictatorship under Misuari which the great majority of the Bangsa Moro will oppose."

They emphasized that Misuari no longer has "the political, legal or moral basis" to claim to be the ligitimate representative of the Bangsa Moro people.

Abbas also criticized President Aquino's approval of Foreign Secretary Paul Manglapus's proposal to send a special diplomatic mission to the OIC meeting to be composed of elected representatives of Filipino Muslims. He said that the mission will just be a waste of government funds because the Foreign Affairs group will have no standing before the OIC. Until yesterday, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) had not yet named the members of the special mission.

The MNLF sits as observer in the OIC, a step before full membership.

Last week, a group of Middle East-based diplomats said 37 of the 46-member countries of the OIC has assured Misuari of full support in its campaign for full membership.

CPP Support Reportedly From Libya, North Korea

HK0305050390 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 3 May 90 p 1, 17

[By Olaf Giron]

[Text] Libya, along with North Korea, is the Communist Party of the Philippines' (CPP's) largest foreign supporter, according to information from military intelligence.

Evidence of the use of The Netherlands as a sanctuary from which to organize the contacts of Philippine communists with Libya was revealed by the presence in Holland of a New People's Army (NPA) cadre who was on assignment until the middle of last year as the NPA's permanent representative to Tripoli, Libya's capital.

Intelligence sources identified the cadre as Jose de Vera, who reportedly entered Amsterdam, the capital of The Netherlands, with a passport using the alias "Roberto Soriano." De Vera is a member of the CPP central committee and brother of former executive committee member Benjamin de Vera, who was captured by the military in March, 1988.

During Jose de Vera's stay in Tripoli, he was reportedly directly involved in facilitating agreements by which Libya provided funds and military training to the NPA. He organized the Tripoli end of a series of courier runs in which young NPA couriers—sometimes traveling as "contract workers"—carried big amounts dollars [as published] from Tripoli to various European cities. The money was passed on to the CPP's European network and deposited in a series of European accounts held by European supporters of the CPP-National Democratic Front.

In his position as NPA representative to Tripoli, De Vera was also party to discussions with his Libyan hosts on how the NPA could carry out attacks against U.S. interests in the Philippines and destabilize the Aquino government.

The NPA maintains a close relationship with Libya. Party members travel frequently to Tripoli for meetings with representatives of Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qahdhafi.

It is known within Philippine intelligence circles that many NPA rebels have received military training in Libya since 1987.

Libya reportedly has also provided significant funding for the NPA. Large sums of cash have been deposited in European accounts for use by CPP leaders in exile in Europe.

While unwilling to go public with their information, senior Philippine military officers said that some of the biggest NPA attacks in the past three years were carried out at the direction of Libya in return for financial support.

It was reported that the October, 1987, killing of three U.S. servicemen near Clark Air Base was carried out by the NPAs after NPA chief of staff Romulo Kintanar supposedly received assurances that the NPA would get $2 million from Libya as compensation. Kintanar was said to have clinched the deal with the Libyans in mid-1987 during a "secret visit" to Libya.

In 1988, the NPA carried out a sabotage operation against a U.S., Navy communications facility in Baguio City. On April 21, 1988, the NPA launched the daytime assassination of U.S. Col. James "Nick" Rowe who was working at the Joint U.S. Military Assistance Group (JUSMAG) headquarters in Quezon City.

Rebel Returnee Says 'Jealousy' Mars Movement

HK0205103590 Manila THE MANILA TIMES in English 2 May 90 p 15

[By Mar Supnad]

[Text] Balanga, Bataan—The communist underground movement in the province have drifted into small factions following a row between their territorial and mobile units in the collection of revolutionary taxes.

In his confession to Lt. Col. Ramsey L. Ocampo, Bataan provincial commander, Wilfredo Manahan, alias ka [Comrade] Norman, of Barangay Kaparangan, Orani town, said that the New People's Army [NPA] here has been greatly demoralized as a result of the reported "jealousy" among the rebels in collecting and distributing their collected taxes from the people.

Manahan surrendered to the military the other week. He was tagged by the military as the "most wanted NPA leader in Orani town."

Ocampo said the territorial units of the rebels were the ones responsible in collecting revolutionary taxes from the businessmen and other establishments, while the mobile units comprise the NPA's attack forces.

"The unfair distribution of taxes among the rebels have contributed to the demoralization of the (underground) movement," he said, quoting Manahan. The surrenderee stressed that the actuations of some of their comrades who died fighting but received less dividends from the territorial units irked other rebels.

Communist Leaders Said Purchasing Imported Cars

HK0105064190 Quezon City MALAYA in English 30 Apr 90 p 6

[By Nestor Arellano]

[Text] Constabulary intelligence operatives are on the lookout for brand new cars reported to have been bought from abroad for the use of top Communist Party leaders in the country.

Maj. Gen. Cesar Nazareno, PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] chief, yesterday said intelligence reports indicate that the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines], through various intermediaries, have recently been making purchases of cars abroad.

He said a number of these cars have arrived and Constabulary agents are now conducting surveillance on a number of them which have already been identified. Nazareno, however, did not say where the cars came from.

A PC press statement said the CPP leaders "shifted to using new cars to avoid detection."

Early last year, the military reported that communist rebels have resorted to using second-hand and carnapped vehicles for their operations.

PC operatives under Brig. Gen. Gerardo Flores, PC-INP intelligence chief, also raided a repair shop in Pampanga said to be used by the New People's Army in repainting these vehicles.

The PC claims to have identified at least 15 of the cars from abroad and are now monitoring the vehicles.

In another development, the PC command in Central Visayas filed robbery charges against suspected communist rebels who raided Campostela town in Cebu last April 18. Brig. Gen. Raul Imperial, Regional Command 7 chief, identified the seven as Mirasol Socco, Norma Aresco, Guillermo Camansi, Teopanes meja, Avelino Castro, Alejandro Taburnal and Pedro Rojo. Last April 18 at about 3 p.m. some 35 heavily armed men wearing fatigue uniforms attacked the town and ransacked the municipal hall and rural bank.

Rebels Capture 14 Soldiers in Surigao del Sur

HK0305040390 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 2 May 90 pp 1, 6

[Text] Communist rebels have captured 14 soldiers after an encounter last April 18 in Marihatag, Mt Diwata, Surigao del Sur, a statement released by the National Democratic Front [NDF]-Mindanao said yesterday. The statement also denied reports that 161 communist rebels were killed in March in the government's counter-insurgency campaign.

In a related development, four top NPA [New People's Army] guerillas operating in the Ilocos region were

reported to have surrendered. One of the surrenderers carried a P100,000 price on his head.

"Fourteen (government troopers) were taken prisoners of war and will be released only if the People's Court will find them innocent of crimes against the masses and the revolutionary movement" the NDF statement said. It did not identify the soldiers.

"Not one Red fighter perished over the past two weeks," the statement added. Brig Gen Mariano Baccay, Regional Command 11 chief, was quoted as saying last April 22 that 161 New People's Army guerrillas have been killed by government troops. The NDF statement said the Armed Forces of the Philippines might have included civilian and government casualties in its list. "Where else could have the military acquired the figure but from their own?" the statement asked. The NDF said it was the government side which suffered heavy casualties in traps and ambuscades laid by the rebels. The statement said 24 soldiers died on the spot, while four were wounded in an attack by rebels last April 18 in Mt Diwata.

Another statement sent the INQUIRER by the NDF said communist rebels were maintaining a hospital deep in Mt Diwata. The statement said the hospital has performed 35 minor operations and has been treating poor residents of the area.

Cebu Towns 'Under Threat of Communist Attacks'

HK0105103590 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 1 May 90

[Text] Regional Command [Recom] 7 chief Brigadier General Raul Imperial admitted that some towns in the province of Cebu are under threat of communist attacks. This was announced by Brig. Gen. Imperial to newsmen in his office. According to him, his response to the communist threats is to hold seminars with his field commanders, both in the military and the police, so that they will be prepared in case the attacks are mounted.

Fugitive Policeman Reported in Mindanao

HK3004060990 Quezon City Sports Radio 738 in English 0600 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] Fugitive former Zamboanga policeman Rizal Ali is believed to have slipped back to Mindanao to launch terroristic activities. Naval intelligence reports say Ali arrived two weeks ago in Sibuco, Zamboanga del Norte, with about 40 heavily armed followers. Ali was believed to have fled and sought refuge in Sabah after the Cawa Cawa incident.

Thailand

Reportage on Cambodian Peace Efforts Continues

Faction Officials Plan To Meet

BK0205141990 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan told newsmen at Government House this afternoon that he was still waiting for a report from Gen. Chawalit Yongchaiyut, deputy prime minister and defense minister, about the latter's meeting in Phatthaya yesterday with Hun Sen, leader of the Heng Samrin regime of Cambodia.

Meanwhile, the prime minister said that the plan for a meeting between senior officials of the two Cambodian factions prior to the meeting in Japan is normal procedure for any big meeting. He believed the meeting of senior officials of the Sihanouk and Hun Sen factions can take place in the second half of this month.

Daily on 'Preparatory Talks'

BK0305023390 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 3 May 90 p 1

[Text] Preparatory talks between representatives of the Cambodian resistance and Phnom Penh will be held in Bangkok after the middle of this month, Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan said yesterday. He said he is waiting for a report from Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister Chawalit Yongchaiyut on the minister's meeting with Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen in Phatthaya.

Mr Hun Sen met Gen [General] Chawalit over breakfast yesterday before he took time off from serious talks to tour an island off Phatthaya and visit Suan Nongnut Park.

Asked by a reporter about Mr Hun Sen's remark that Prince Norodom Sihanouk and himself should not rush to meet in Tokyo if there is no progress from the preparatory talks in Bangkok, Prime Minister Chatchai said since the Cambodian conflict had remained unresolved for more than 10 years one should not expect sudden progress from only two days of talks.

Meanwhile, a source close to the Prime Minister's advisers said that Prince Sihanouk would first name his representatives for the preparatory meeting and the same would be done by Hun Sen.

One of the Prince's representatives might be his own son, Prince Ranariddh, the commander-in-chief of the Sihanoukist force, said the source, adding that in such a case Mr Hun Sen might name Ho Nam Hong, a minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office, as head of his advance delegation. The representatives of the two sides will work out the agenda for the Tokyo meeting which will focus on a ceasefire and the formation of a supreme national council.

Chatchai Plans To Visit China

BK0305130190 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 3 May 90 p 4

[Text] At the invitation of the Chinese Government, Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan will lead a delegation to pay a friendly visit to China prior to his visit to the United States in June. This will be General Chatchai's second trip to China since assuming the premiership over one year ago.

An informed source told our newspaper's correspondent that General Chatchai will discuss international issues and bilateral cooperation with Chinese leaders during his visit.

International issues, especially the long-standing Cambodian issue, will be the main topics of discussion. It is believed that they will touch on the upcoming meeting between Prince Sihanouk and Hun Sen to Tokyo in June, which is part of the Thai Government's efforts to bring peace to Cambodia. The Thai side will listen to China's views on such efforts.

On bilateral issues, both sides will discuss ways to strengthen economic cooperation and to expand trade between the two countries.

Hun Sen, Chawalit Meeting Viewed

BK0305070890 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Defense Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut disclosed that this morning the visiting Japanese defense minister called on Prime Minister Gen. Chatchai Chunhawan, a former defense minister. The Japanese defense minister and the prime minister exchanged views on the regional situation. The visitor thanked the prime minister for arranging a meeting of the two Cambodian leaders in Tokyo which will enable Japan to play a role in restoring peace.

Asked by newsmen about his meeting with Hun Sen, Gen. Chawalit said the meeting went well but was not conclusive. He said the planned meeting between senior officials of both Cambodian factions was aimed at paving the way for an acceptance in principle by Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk. A committee will work on the details. Gen. Chawalit said he felt that once the two Cambodian faction leaders meet, they will discuss progress in the search for peace. The senior officials of both factions will decide on such issues as policy and direction, the success of which is now quite near. Asked about Hun Sen's remarks that his decision to go to Japan hinges on the outcome of the meeting of the two factions' working committees, Gen. Chawalit said that is not the main issue; the main issue is that a meeting in Japan has already been accepted in principle. He believes the meeting could be held during the first week of June.

Japanese Defense Agency Head on Regional Issues

OW0305122490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1141 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Bangkok, May 3 KYODO—Japanese Defense Agency chief Yozo Ishikawa urged the Soviet Union Thursday to slash its armed forces in Asia substantially, describing its military strength in the region as "enormous." "The Soviet Union deploys about 390,000 army troops, about 140 submarines, including 80 nuclear-powered submarines, and more than 2,300 warplanes and bombers in Asia," Ishikawa said in a paper read at a lecture session here.

Though he acknowledged that the Soviet Union has reduced part of its armed forces in Asia quantitatively, Ishikawa said its strength has been improved qualitatively as a result of modernization of its air force. "The Soviet Union's armed forces in Asia are enormous, much more than the country actually needs," Ishikawa said in the prepared statement. "(This) is a factor hindering progress of (armed forces reduction talks in Asia and in Europe)."

Describing the Soviet military strength in East Asia as the "biggest factor" of unstable security in that region, Ishikawa said, "I think the Soviet Union should slash its armed forces in the region, unilaterally and substantially."

Ishikawa arrived here Wednesday for a three-day visit to Thailand.

He earlier visited Australia and will leave for Malaysia Friday to end a five-day tour of the three countries, the first by Japan's top defense policymaker since the end of World War II.

Referring to the U.S. security role in the region, Ishikawa said whether or not the country can retain its military bases in the Philippines is the "most serious" security issue between Washington and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)—a regional grouping of Thailand, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, and Brunei.

"Prospects of (U.S.-Philippines) negotiations on extention of the lease agreement on the bases are not easy to predict," he said in the statement. The accord, involving the largest U.S. military installations overseas, expires next year.

Ishikawa also referred to the security situation in Indochina and said, "Vietnam should not be isolated in the future, but rather the country should be accepted in the international community." He cited the largest Indochinese country as a major factor for instability in the region.

Earlier in the day, Ishikawa held talks with his Thai counterpart Chawalit Yongchaiyut which centered on the Cambodian problem. Vietnam said all of its troops have left Cambodia, but Cambodian guerrilla groups claim Hanoi is still sending troops to the country. Japan

and most Western nations have suspended economic aid to Vietnam in retaliation for its involvement in the Cambodian problem.

Police Seize Heroin Said Destined for U.S.

BK0205024590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 2 May 90 p 3

[Text] Police seized 33 kilogrammes of high-grade heroin and arrested two men yesterday when they raided a housing estate in Muang district of the suburban Nonthaburi province. One of the suspects had served a jail term for a narcotic offence in Australia and was released about six years ago, police said.

The police team stormed a house at the Krisuli Villa housing estate off Samakkhi Road shortly after 1 am yesterday and found 74 packets of heroin weighing about 33 kilogrammes there, said police. Two men in the house, Prasat Yuyen, 48, and Sura Koet-hong, 48, were arrested on drug trafficking charges. Prasat denied any knowledge about the heroin but Sura admitted possession of the narcotics, according to police.

Police added that Prasat had been released from a jail in Australia some six years ago after having been imprisoned for a drug offence. The two suspects were preparing to hand over the heroin to foreign customers who planned to smuggle the drugs into the United States, police said.

First Half Year's Revenue Collection Reported

BK2904145390 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 29 Apr 90

[Text] The Finance Ministry has reported on the collection of revenues by the Customs, Excise, and Revenue Departments from the beginning of the 1990 fiscal year in October 1989 to March 1990.

The Customs Department collected 42,724.771 million baht, 8,484.929 million baht or 24.78 percent higher than the revenue collected for the same period in the previous year. The collection is 4,909.771 million baht or 12.98 percent higher than the estimate.

The Excise Department collected 37,208.3 million baht, 2,452.3 million baht or 7.06 percent higher than the same period in the previous year. This collection is 727.6 million baht or 1.92 percent below the target. The collection represents 49.73 percent of the annual revenue estimate.

The Revenue Department collected 71,700.06 million baht, 18,119.82 million baht or 33.82 percent higher than the same period in the previous year. This is 21,385.06 million baht higher than the target or 42.50 percent of the annual revenue estimate.

Vietnam

Nguyen Van Linh Interviewed by Japanese TV

OW0205140690 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1210 GMT 2 May 90

[From the "NHK News 21" program: "Exclusive" interview with Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, by program anchorman Hatsuhisa Takashima, with questions in Japanese and Nguyen Van Linh answering in Vietnamese with Japanese subtitles—recorded]

[Text] It has been 15 years since the Vietnam War ended. Nguyen Van Linh, Vietnam's supreme leader and general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, has granted an exclusive interview to the NHK. This was his first interview with Western television. He has indicated a strong intention to improve relations with the United States and Japan, as has never been stated before. He even went so far as to state positively that it would be all right to provide both Japan and the United States with the port facilities at Cam Ranh Bay, which the Soviet Union has recently used. Since the Vietnam War, Vietnam has been confronting China, not to mention the Western bloc, and it has been isolated from the international community. It seems that Vietnam has now taken a big diplomatic move. Please watch our interview with General Secretay Nguyen Van Linh:

[Takashima] It is 15 years now since the end of the Vietnam War. What are the prospects for improving relations with the United States?

[Nguyen Van Linh] We hope that U.S. leaders will lift both the political and economic blockades. We have withdrawn completely from Cambodia. However, the United States holds that the Cambodian issue remains unsettled and that it is still too early for normalization.

[Takashima] It is reported that you want to normalize relations with Japan. In concrete terms, what do you expect from Japan?

[Nguyen Van Linh] We have made contacts with Japanese financiers for several years. The normalization of relations will be of mutual benefit, and we heartily welcome it.

[Takeshima] Concerning Cam Ranh Bay, do you plan, for example, to let the U.S. forces use it or to approve the establishment of Japanese petroleum bases there?

[Nguyen Van Linh] If relations with the United States or Japan are normalized, Japanese and American vessels would be allowed to enter Cam Ranh Bay for refueling or repair. However, Cam Ranh Bay will be used strictly for peaceful purposes. For the sake of peace in Asia, we would never approve of Japan or the United States using it as a naval base.

[Takashima] Do you think the improvement of relations with China will be promoted smoothly?

[Nguyen Van Linh] We are looking for various ways to restore our former friendly relations with China. It will be very difficult, but we can certainly restore friendly relations.

[Takashima] Well, General Secretary Nguyen Van Linh, do you have plans to go to Beijing yourself for direct talks on improving relations?

[Nguyen Van Linh] Concerning this point, I have a positive view. If the Chinese extend an invitation, I would be ready to accept it.

GDR Envoy To Visit, Discuss SRV Workers

BK0205132690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] According to sources from Berlin, at a news conference on 27 April Mrs. (Buecher), The GDR envoy in charge of foreigners, said she will lead a delegation to Vietnam next week and afterward to Mozambique and Angola to discuss the issue of workers of these countries in the GDR.

Mrs. (Buecher) said: The purpose of her visit is to negotiate with officials of these countries on the possibility of repatriating 90,000 foreign workers before the end of the period agreed upon in bilateral contracts. This is to lessen the burden of factories and enterprises hiring foreign workers.

About 200 factories and enterprises have already submitted applications asking permission from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs to dismiss more than 9,000 foreign workers. Mrs. (Buecher) admitted that the hostile attitude against foreign workers in the GDR is increasingly prevalent. A segment of the German population holds that foreign workers are a threat to their livelihood. Comrade (Viger), chairman of the GDR trade union, in a meeting on 28 April with Vietnamese, Cuban, and Mozambique workers at a chemical factory in (Stugal) city, said that nationalism and hostility against foreigners are being inappropriately used to resolve arising social problems in the GDR.

PLO Economic Delegation Concludes Visit

BK0205154590 Hanoi VNA in English 1450 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 2—The economic delegation of the state of Palestine led by Abu-al-'Ala, head of the economic and planning department of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), today concludes a five-day visit to Vietnam.

The delegation paid tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited the late president's home and office.

It was received on separate occasions by Le Quang Dao, vice-president of the State Council and Chairman of the National Assembly, Nguyen Co Thach, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and foreign minister, General Vo Nguyen Giap, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Hoang Bich Son, head of the party Central Committee's International Department.

The guests had working sessions with the Ministries of Commerce and Heavy Industry and the Vietnam-Palestine Friendship Association. They toured a number of economic and cultural institutions in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. The Palestine delegation held taiks with the delegation of the Vietnamese Government led by Bui Danh Luu, minister of transport, communications and posts.

The two sides discussed measures to enhance the two countries' economic cooperation and reaffirmed the desire to further promote the solidarity, friendship and cooperation between the two peoples in the [present] stage on the basis of equality and mutual benefits and in conformity with the capabilities and conditions of their respective countries.

An agreement on economic, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation between Vietnam and Palestine was signed on April 30 by Minister Bui Danh Luu and Abu-al-'Ala.

Palestinian Ambassador Sa'id Khalil al-Masri was present on this occasion.

Leaders Send Greetings on Polish National Day

BK0205154890 Hanoi VNA in English 1454 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 2—State Council President Vo Chi Cong today sent his greetings to President Wojciech Jaruzelski on the national day of the Republic of Poland (May 3).

In his greeting message, the Vietnamese leader expressed his belief in the further consolidation and development of the traditional friendship and cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the two peoples and for peaceful cooperation among nations all over the world.

On this occasion, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi extended his greetings to his Polish counterpart Tadeusz Mazowiecki.

"I hope that the multifaceted friendship and cooperation between the two states and peoples will be further developed on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and interest," his message says.

Cuba Marks Ho Chi Minh's Birthday, 1975 Victory

BK0305085690 Hanoi VNA in English 0721 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—A meeting was held in Cuba on April 30 by the Movement for Peace and Sovereignty

of the Peoples on the occasion of Ho Chi Minh's birth centenary and the 15th anniversary of the liberation of South Vietnam.

It was attended by Mrs. Meba Hernandez, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee and director of the Asian-Australian Institute, and Vietnamese Ambassador to Cuba Do Van Tai.

Addressing the meeting, Prof. Miguel D'Estefano, who had attended an international symposium on Ho Chi Minh in Hanoi praised the late president's great contribution to the Vietnamese revolution, and the great significance of the April 30, 1975 victory over the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam.

For the same purpose, mass meetings, film shows, exhibitions and other functions on Vietnam and Ho Chi Minh were held in the Cuban capital and provinces.

Get-Together Held on Foreign Investment 25 Apr

BK0205035590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 27 Apr 90

[Text] On 25 April, at the government guest house, the company in charge of promoting and developing industrial ownership activities of the State Commission of Technology and the International Consultant Group held a get-together with representatives of eight international production and business corporations. Foreign companies' representatives have come to Vietnam to seek the possibility for cooperation and investment in the fields of finance, tourism, chemical, telecommunications, and construction. During their stay in Vietnam, the representatives will work with functional state agencies, the people's committees of Haiphong and Ho Chi Minh Cities, and the sectors of communications and transportation, post, heavy industry, energy, and trade.

VNA Reports on 5-Year Oil Production Program

BK0205075890 Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT 2 May 90

[Text] Hanoi May 2—Up to 1989, more than 2.5 million tons of crude oil were pumped from the Bach Ho oil field off the coast of the Vung Tau-Con Dao Special Zone, according to the Vietnam National Oil and Gas Company (Petrovietnam).

This year, 2.5 million more tons of crude are expected from the fields. The yield of the oil wells in the first four months of this year promised well for the fulfillment of the five-million tons mark under the 1985-90 five-year program.

At present, Vietnam has seven off-shore oil rigs and 39 oil wells under operation. Two more rigs are expected to be installed and 16 wells to be drilled this year. The Thanh Tuy Ha Petrochemical Complex capable of processing three million tons of crude is nearing completion in the southern province of Dong Nai.

Along with broadening the Bach Ho oil field, Vietnam is exploring other fields, Dai Hung and Rong, which lie farther from the coast and at greater depths than Bach Ho. Thus from 1995 three oil fields will be operating off the coast of south Vietnam with an expected yield of six million tons of crude each year.

So far, joint ventures in oil and gas exploration and exploitation have been signed between Petrovietnam and the Total Company of France, British Petroleum (BP) and Enterprise of Britain, Shell of Belgium and the Netherlands, SECAB (Swedish Exploration Consortium AB) and ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] of India.

Hanoi Takes Measures To Reduce Rice Prices

BK0205103590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 30 Apr 90

[Text] In an effort to stabilize the price of rice in Hanoi, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry on 30 April held a conference under the chairmanship of its minister, Nguyen Cong Tan. The conference discussed concrete measures to reduce the price of rice to 750 dong per kg. These measures include efforts to supply more rice to the people, while the state will stop collecting and buying grain from northern provinces to ensure sufficient rice for the local people. The ministry will provide Haiphong and Hanoi municipalities with surplus rice collected from southern provinces and grain obtained from other localities. Trading in grain will be expanded in these municipalities to help the people easily buy the rice they need.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry shall order its establishments, unions, and corporations engaging in trade and services to sell rice to the people from 0600 to 1800 as of 2 May. As a result, Hanoi will have almost 180 shops selling an average of 700 tonnes of rice daily to the people at a definite price of 750 dong per kg. Those shops that want to sell rice at a higher price should move to other localities. This is to avoid confusion that may lead to negative practices. With the consent of the Hanoi people's committee, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry will set up rice booths at various markets to sell rice to the people without charging any added fees. Meanwhile, the comrade people's committee chairman pledged he will provide every favorable condition for the grain sector to set up more rice shops.

The ministry has appointed Vice Minister Chu Manh as head of the committee for transporting rice from Haiphong to localities, with the participation of representatives from the Council of Ministers. The ministry also appointed the municipal trade union chairman as head of the inspection team to make regular checks on the quality and price of rice. Those shops that sell rice at more than 750 dong per kg will be seriously dealt with.

Afforestation Increases in Central Provinces

BK0305090390 Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 3 May 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 3—With the assistance of the World Food Programme (WFP), the central Vietnam Provinces of Quang Nam-Danang Thua Thien-Hue, Quang Tri, Quang Binh and Nghe Tinh have over the past four years afforested 73,815 hectares of bare hills and sand banks along the sea.

Of the above-said figure, more than 27,000 hectares were covered with pine, 12,000 hectares with filao, 26,000 hectares with eucalyptus. In addition, 105,000 hectares of forests have been alloted to local peasant families which have built 392 kilometres of roads accesible to forests and 213 kilometres of firebreaks. Moreover, 498 forest workers have received lectures on sylviculture.

Efforts made by the five central coastal provinces in afforestation were highly appreciated by the WFP representation in Hanoi and Vietnam's forest-control department during their recent inspection tours. The survival rate among trees planted in the five provinces reached from 80-90 per cent. By the end of March this year, the localities had received from the WFP 49,675 tons of wheat flour, dozens of tonnes of nitrogenous fertilizer, and saplings.

Thanks to he expansion of afforestation in these provinces, 6,000 people have been given stable jobs and 61,000 others received seasonal employment, thus bringing the total number of people provided with food from the WFP to 300,000.

The WFP has decided to invest more than 17 million US dollars in afforesting 70,000 more hectares in the northern provinces of Vinh Phu, Bac Thai and Ha Son Binh and Hanoi. Other afforestation projects are being studied by the WFP.